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Topics of the Time.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL QUESTION.

Our public school system, though susceptible of great improvement, is the best that could be devised for our country. It is the great safeguard of the country. The free, secular, common school is the chief corner-stone of a free government, based on the will of the majority. It is the place for American children to become enlightened, independent, progressive American citizens. There is no public interest of greater importance than the preservation of the American public school system. It is brought forward now into special prominence by insidious assaults upon it.

A movement has lately been inaugurated in New York, New Jersey, Maryland and other states, for the division of the public school funds on a sectarian basis. It is an attempt to insert into our public school system the thin edge of a wedge that will split it into, not two, but many parts. If a portion of the school fund is set aside for one denomination, other denominations must get their portion on demand. Division of the school funds for the purpose of denominational education means the destruction of our free school system. Whoever attacks that system can be rightly regarded as a public enemy. He is assaulting our form of civil government.

By the constitution of the United States Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion; the legislature of no state has power to make such a law. Church and state are to be kept separate; and our government is not to provide, directly or indirectly, for the teaching of sectarian dogmas in public, private, parochial or denominational schools. Division of public funds raised by tax for public benefit among denominational schools, teaching religious dogmas, creeds, and confessions of error is contrary to the supreme law of the land.

It is a fortunate thing for our country that this movement is so well known and some of its objects understood. But "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

The National League for the Protection of American Institutions, the objects of which are "to secure constitutional and legislative safeguards for the protection of the common school system and other American institutions, and to promote public instruction in harmony with such institutions, and to prevent all sectarian or denominational appropriation of public funds," has issued the following ringing address:

The practice of nations in the support of schools where the union of church and state prevails, furnishes no precedent for the

United States. We are not looking to monarchies for instruction concerning the best training of youth to fit them for citizenship in this republic. Popular suffrage here rests for its safe exercise upon the character and intelligence of all classes of the people. The republic, for its own preservation, has established and must insist upon maintaining a free common school system of education. It must be maintained without compromise. It is the only institution capable of converting the dangerously heterogeneous elements of our population into a safely homogeneous citizenship. The tax for the maintenance of public schools levied upon all citizens, whether they have children to educate or not, is for the *public* good, and not for *private* benefit. The state opens its schools with equal advantages to the children of all its citizens. The state does not deny the right to parents, organizations or churches to establish and maintain private or parochial schools at their own expense.

A movement, however, with audacious demands and specious claims, has been initiated in the state of New York for the division of the public school funds on sectarian lines, and it is announced that the same program is proposed for all the states. That this has mainly in view selfish and not public ends, is shown by the fact that the movement is being pushed almost exclusively by a single religious denomination, which, for many years, by its chief authorities, has been assaulting the public school system. A few of its more liberal representatives have tolerated the system, and have sought in many ways to control it. Every compromise, however, between sectarian and public schools which has previously been tried has invariably resulted in the humiliating surrender of some vital principle of public school education. We appeal to all loyal American citizens to cooperate in every feasible way in the defense of the American free public school system, on which the safety of the republic and the peace and prosperity of its citizens so largely depend.

FROM CANNIBALISM TO CIVILIZATION.

In 1778, Captain Cook discovered the group of beautiful, sunny islands in the North Pacific, now known as Hawaii. The natives, though mild in manners, were extremely licentious in habits and barbarously idolatrous. Polygamy and polyantry prevailed indiscriminately; human sacrifices were offered and cannibalism was practiced as religious rites. The natives were without laws, without ideas of justice or morality; life, property, everything was in the hands of irresponsible chiefs.

About the time of Cook's discovery, the chief of the largest island died, and was succeeded by Kamehameha, a man of great ability. He built ships on European models, trained soldiers, introduced firearms, conquered and brought under his rule the chiefs of the other islands, and firmly established a dynasty that lasted ninety years.

In 1820, American missionaries commenced their labors at Honolulu. Two years later the native language was reduced to writing. Principally through the work of these missionaries and through their influence over the Kamemeha race of kings, the form of government was improved and changed to a constitutional monarchy, a code of laws—American in type—was adopted, and the American school system was established. In spite of a strong tendency to relapse into barbarism, the Hawaiians have steadily advanced in civilization, and made more progress than any other Polynesian tribe.

In spite of all the advantages of civilization, however, the native race has continued to decrease rapidly in numbers. At the time of the discovery they probably numbered 250,000, although estimated

much higher. In 1823, the missionaries estimated the population at 142,000; in 1878 the census showed it to be 44,000; now the natives number only 34,000. Extinction of the native race seems inevitable. The number of Hawaiians of foreign descent, chiefly American, is rapidly increasing. With American laws, customs and institutions, Hawaii is now, in fact, an American colony.

Since the Kamehameha family became extinct in 1874, the sovereigns have been poor rulers. At that time Kalakaua was elected to the throne. A formidable riot followed, but was quickly suppressed on the landing of American marines. Weak, extravagant and dissolute, the new king was soon surrounded and controlled by the worst characters on the island. Official extravagance and political corruption caused an uprising of the better element of the people in 1887, and if the king had not then yielded to the demands of the principal citizens and taxpayers, adopted a new constitution and appointed a reform ministry, the monarchy would have been abolished. By his appointment, Lilioukalani succeeded Kalakaua at his death in 1890. This dissolute queen proved a worse ruler than her brother. Surrounded and controlled by irresponsible adventurers of the opium and lottery rings, she closed her short, inglorious career last January by an attempt to carry out a conspiracy to subvert the constitution and overthrow the supreme court. The fall of the monarchy, brought about by the queen's own actions, is as important an event in the history of Hawaii as the Declaration of Independence is in American history, and marks a great stride forward in the progress of civilization in the Islands.

THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL MESSAGE.

President Cleveland's special message, submitted in obedience to the command of Congress, is a long, special plea in defense of his abortive attempt to set up the fallen monarchy in Hawaii. Having full faith in the absolute infallibility of the Paramount-Blount report, a document now very generally discredited, he boldly assumes that the monarchy was overthrown by the active and unwarranted intervention of Minister Stevens, aided by an armed force of the United States, landed under false pretenses, for that purpose; and he bluntly asserts that when President Harrison was led to submit the treaty of annexation to the senate, with the declaration that "the overthrow of the monarchy was not in any way promoted by this government," and when the senate was induced to receive and discuss it on that basis, "both president and senate were misled."

He declares that he will not again submit the treaty to the senate for its consideration, and that he instructed Minister Willis to so inform the Provisional Government, hoping that after such assurance to the members of that government, he might compass a peaceful adjustment of the difficulty. Minister Willis was instructed to apologize to Lilioukalani for the wrong done, and to restore her to the throne on conditions of general amnesty to those concerned in setting up the Provisional Government, and recognition of all its bona fide acts and obligations.

He throws the blame for the flat failure of his scheme to restore the queen, on the queen herself, stating that these conditions have not proved acceptable to her. "The check," he says, "which my plans have

thus encountered has prevented their presentation to the members of the Provisional Government, while unfortunate public misrepresentation of the situation, and exaggerated statements of the sentiments of our people, have obviously injured the prospects of successful executive mediation."

Having only muddled matters by meddling in mediation when it was not called for, the president has abandoned his private enterprise, and concludes his message by now referring the subject, without recommendation, to the broader authority and wiser discretion of Congress, from which he has kept it for so many months.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

Those who held the theory that the monthly purchase of silver bullion by the government was the sole, or principal cause of the panic, and that the passage of the repeal bill would immediately restore prosperity, now find that they were badly mistaken.

The financial situation has changed, it is true, but the actual depression in business is nearly as great as it ever was. Money is not now being hoarded, but is seeking investment at low or fair rates of interest. But the accumulation of an enormous surplus of money in the financial centers of the country waiting for an opportunity of investment indicates clearly the inactivity in industrial enterprises. Hundreds of thousands of idle workmen tell of the continued depression in business in louder tones than idle money.

Full prosperity will not return until every idle workman can return to employment at good wages.

It seems certain that a change for the better will come soon. Manufacturing is not now on a scale sufficient to supply even the demands of limited consumption. Surplus stocks will all soon be cleared out. Then manufacturers must employ more workmen and enlarge their output. The employed workman is a good customer; and with the return of men to work there will come a larger demand for goods. The outlook is that there will be a gradual improvement in the condition of things. As lower wages will prevail, however, we cannot expect the high prosperity the country enjoyed a year ago to be restored.

ANARCHY.

The favorite weapon of the anarchist is the dynamite bomb. It is his chosen agent for the destruction of everything in the nature of law, order and civil government. Whenever a bomb is hurled at the agents of any form of government, the hand of the anarchist is recognized at once. The bomb explosions in the theater at Barcelona and in the French chamber of deputies at Paris have been heard around the world. The answer will be more stringent measures against anarchy, and swifter punishment of anarchists for their horrible deeds.

Society need not resort to the merciless methods of the anarchists to protect itself against them. Prompt arrest, impartial trial, and just punishment of all convicted offenders of the law, will keep anarchy in check. It is the too frequent escape of criminals of all kinds from deserved punishment that encourages the growth of anarchy. His ravings and threats against civil government and his deeds of indiscriminate violence indicate that the anarchist is a madman. For the protection of life and property society must, therefore, keep every known anarchist under the strictest police surveillance.

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Club Raisers Will find our offers liberal. Please read them, send us as many subscriptions as you can get, and take your choice of cash commissions or good premiums.

The National Farmers' Alliance Will hold its annual meeting in Chicago, Ill., January 18, 1894. The secretary, August Post, Moulton, Iowa, will send full particulars on application.

The Wool Growers Of the United States are busy signing petitions remonstrating against the free-wool clause in the Wilson bill. They propose to send to the finance committee of the senate a petition with half a million signatures. Let Congress hear from every wool grower in the land. If one of them wants free wool, let him say so. But let everyone who sees the injustice and unfairness of free wool and protected woolen goods, sign the remonstrance, or write to his representative in Congress.

Sugar. The United States annually imports, in round numbers, 1,800,000 tons of sugar, valued at \$120,000,000. The average farm price of wheat is now less than sixty cents a bushel. From lands yielding twenty bushels per acre, the returns are less than \$12. Therefore, if we produce from beets at home the sugar we import, we can release more than 10,000,000 acres of good land from wheat culture. A reduction of 200,000,000 bushels in our wheat crop would leave little or none for export, and the price would not be held down by an oversupply in foreign markets, to the great pleasure and profit of the American wheat raiser.

Tax on Incomes. Is the "tax on incomes derived from certain corporate investments," recommended by the president in his annual message to Congress, to apply to the dividends made by building and loan associations? In the nearly six thousand building and loan associations in the United States, there are over a million and a half stockholders who are interested in the answer to this question. They have nine hundred million dollars in "corporate investments." An internal revenue tax of two per cent on the dividends derived from these corporate investments would bring in about a million and a half dollars.

To be sure, this is not a great sum in the eyes of a billion-dollar Congress, but the ways and means committee is searching very thoroughly for everything that will help make up the seventy-five-million-dollar deficiency in the Wilson tariff bill.

The Annual Agricultural Convention of Ohio

Will be held in Columbus, Ohio, January 11, 1894. The Ohio stock-breeders' and farmers' institute will be held in the same place, January

9 and 10, 1894. Practical farm topics of the times are on the programs, and well-known authorities and specialists are named to take part in the discussions.

Public Opinion. By "the exaggerated sentiments of our people," in his message to Congress, the president probably refers to the substantial unanimity with which the American people indignantly disapprove of his course of action in the Hawaiian affair. Annexation is one thing, restoration is another; and the American people contemplate with pleasure the happy failure of his active efforts to rethrone a pagan ex-queen, who sacrifices pigs to Pele, Goddess of Kilaua, and who lost her kingdom in an attempt to overthrow its constitution.

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. Dr. Charles W. Dabney, Jr., recently appointed assistant secretary of the department of agriculture, was born in Virginia about thirty-eight years ago. After completing his education in Europe, Dr. Dabney became a citizen of North Carolina, where, in November, 1880, he was elected state chemist. Since 1888 he has been president of the University of Tennessee and

He believes that a reduction in hours of labor is the only thing that will restore industrial equilibrium. He advises workingmen to take an active part in politics, but to be as politically independent as they desire to be economically free.

The Grange on Secretary Morton.

What motive Secretary Morton had when he assaulted and insulted the Granges and Alliances in his Chicago address, is not known. What he has accomplished is widely known. His attack has called forth some very vigorous expressions of opinion from farm organizations and the agricultural press.

At the annual session of the National Grange, at Syracuse, New York, the following strong resolutions were adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That so far as the Grange is concerned, there is not one word of truth in what the secretary has said about it, but on the contrary, it is strictly non-partisan, and tends by all its teachings and principles to educate and elevate the farmer to a higher and nobler citizenship, and does in a thousand ways improve the farmer in his profession by teaching the most approved methods of agriculture, and in the marketing of his products of the farm, and in wisely using the money received therefor in beautifying and making the home of the farmer better, and increasing the intelligence and happiness of the farmer and his family.

Resolved, That in giving utterance to this calumny, the fallacy of which the secretary must have known, or could have known if he had taken care to inform himself, he has

DR. CHAS. W. DABNEY, JR., PH. D.,
Assistant Secretary of the Department of Agriculture.

chemist of the experiment station. He is a member of German and American chemical societies, of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, of the National Association of Official Chemists, and of the Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science.

Seedsmen, Florists and Nurserymen Now, and will for several forthcoming numbers, occupy considerable space in our advertising columns. All our readers who plant seeds, love flowers, or raise fruits, are requested to read their advertisements and send for the catalogues offered. In these catalogues they will find listed, everything in the line of plants, trees, and field, garden and flower seeds; also directions for their culture for both profit and pleasure.

Labor. President Gompers, of the Federation of Labor, in his address before the recent Chicago convention order, said:

"Since August, this year, we have been in the greatest industrial division this country has ever witnessed. It is no exaggeration to say that more than three million of our fellow-toilers throughout the country are without employment, and have been so since the time named."

He names as one of the causes of this lamentable industrial condition, the invention and introduction of vastly improved machinery, tools and methods of production. These have displaced labor faster than new industries could be found.

proved himself unworthy of the high position he holds.

Resolved, That the president of the United States owes it to the farmers of America, the largest agricultural nation of the world, and the largest single interest in the United States, that they should have a secretary of agriculture in sympathy with this great interest. We believe it to be the imperative duty of the president to immediately take steps to secure a secretary of agriculture who shall be in accord with that interest.

Department of Agriculture and Experiment Stations. In his annual report, Secretary Morton recommends that the act creating state agricultural experiment stations, ought to be so amended as to either give the department of agriculture a larger direction of the methods of expending the annual appropriation made for the experiment stations, or so as to decisively determine that the department has no control over it whatever, and is not required even to "give advice;" in short, the annual appropriation of nearly \$800,000 made for the experiment stations, ought to be charged to them directly, and they entirely divorced from departmental direction; or the law should provide that the secretary of agriculture shall have some power to direct and to restrain the disbursements of the government moneys in each of the experiment stations, so as to insure only a legitimate expenditure of the same.

Whatever changes are made in the relation of the department to the experiment stations, it is safe to say that they will not be placed under control of the present secretary of agriculture.

In his estimate of the appropriations necessary for the department of agriculture for the next year, Secretary Morton has omitted the appropriation for the experiment stations, indicating that he expects Congress to act on his recommendations.

He also advises that Congress make a thorough investigation into the management of each experiment station and the expenditure of the money appropriated for it, stating that current rumor indicates that some of the funds "have been diverted from legitimate public purposes and turned to those of a personal and not patriotic character."

Now prevailing in nearly all of the cities of the Destitution laud calls for the exercise of the most liberal charity. Such destitution has not been known for many years. It is absolutely necessary, to prevent the severest suffering, for the charitable to provide food, shelter and clothing for many thousands of their fellow-men. These must be given for immediate relief; but for permanent relief, the one thing most needful and helpful to give is employment. The greatest philanthropists of the times are those who provide employment, and help reduce the number of the army of the unemployed. The causes that brought about this destitution have shortened the resources of those able and willing to help the needy and suffering, and the most earnest appeals of charitable organizations fall short of bringing them sufficient funds to carry on their work.

Stick in the Mud. The Ohio road commission appointed last spring, in accordance with an act of the general assembly, has handed in its report to Governor McKinley. The commission estimates that there are 80,000 miles of common roads in the state, and that the cost of placing them in first-class condition would average \$5,000 a mile.

Since railways reach every village in the state of any considerable size, the question of good wagon roads is purely a local one; therefore, the commission advises that it would be unwise for the state to enter into a work of general improvement. "The plan of masterly inactivity," says the commission, "may well be adopted by the legislature of Ohio in regard to general road legislation. The times are not propitious for entering upon experiments in this direction. There is no agreement among the advocates of new legislation upon the features that should be incorporated therein."

Sugar Bounties. The United States department of agriculture, for a few years past, has been sending special agents to Europe, seeking markets for American products. That they have accomplished something is shown by our increased exports of corn and other farm products. This is good; but is it not better to encourage, by all proper means, the diversification of our farm crops and the production at home of some of our agricultural imports, which amount to \$850,000,000 annually? We send abroad annually the product of ten million acres of good wheat land to pay for the sugar we import, which can be produced from beets at home from less than a million and one half acres, and the use of the products of more than eight and one half million acres thereby saved. If it is right to spend a dollar of government money in enlarging foreign markets for the benefit of American farmers, it is right to encourage the home production of sugar by bounties to the producers.

The McKinley act provided for a bounty of two cents on each pound of high-grade sugar produced in this country. This bounty was to continue for a definite period of time—from 1891 to 1905—long enough to give it a fair trial. This was done to encourage the production of sugar in the United States. It has had that effect, particularly on the beet-sugar industry. This is acknowledged even by the framers of the Wilson tariff bill, which provides, not for the immediate abolition, but for the gradual reduction of this bounty.

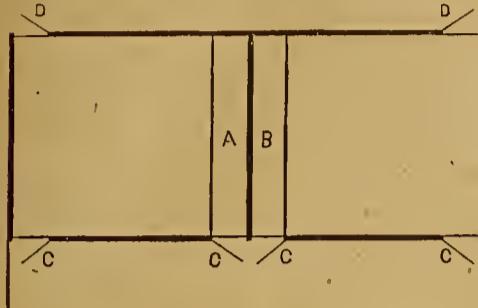
Such has already been the development of this industry that it is altogether probable that the United States will be producing all the sugar it consumes before 1905, if this provision of the McKinley act is allowed to continue in force.

Our Farm.

BOX-STALLS FOR CATTLE.

I WAS compelled to make new accommodations for four young cattle this fall, my flock having outgrown their former quarters.

My barn has no basement, so I built a lean-to shed across the side at the back end of the barn floor. It passes by the carriage-house at one end six feet (the carriage-house is alongside the barn floor, being under the same roof), and is nineteen feet long, and eight feet wide. I would have made it a foot or two wider but my boards were only ten feet long, with



BOX-STALLS FOR CATTLE.

which to make the roof. This shed is divided into two compartments, one 9x9 and the other 10x9. In the smaller one I shall stable two heifers, eighteen months old, and in the other a two-year-old heifer and a six-months-old calf. None of the animals will be tied, but will be at liberty to circulate around as they see fit. The floor is of clay, nearly impervious to water, and the only preparation made for the shutting up of the cattle was to cover with dry leaves and litter a foot deep, and turn the cattle in. The two younger heifers are about of a size and agree nicely, having roomed together last year in a seven by eight stall. The older heifer is very peaceable and non-combative, while the calf is a glutinous, self-asserting, little heifer (we call her Pudding), and I have little doubt will be able to hoe her own row in company with the older one.

At first I intended to make the manger on the barn floor, right over the sill, but this would make it too short in the stall that passed the carriage-house, so I put the mangers the other way, alongside each other, separating the stalls and end to the barn floor. A door two feet wide and six feet high at the end of each manger, gives easy access from the barn floor. Their feed will be mostly cornstalks, cut into lengths of five or six inches, and the feeding will be easier with the mangers in this direction than as I first planned, as we can cut the feed in a pile and push it into the manger without shovel or basket, and we will not have to enter the stable at any time to throw out the refuse of the mangers. The stalls will not be cleaned oftener than once in two months, bedding being freely given to absorb any moisture not taken up by the refuse of the corn fodder.

It is only once in a while that any manure gets dropped in the mangers, as it is mostly dropped while they are headed over the manger, or just after they get up. I have kept two cows in this way for several years and they have a very nice way of adjusting themselves to the condition of affairs.

The older and stronger, takes generally the place next the manger for lying down, lying parallel to the manger and close to it. The other lies parallel to her but at the back side of the stable, the ridge of manure dropped as they stand at the manger,



MODEL STABLE.—FIG. 1.

separating the two. This ridge is distributed to the sides of the stable once a day, and covered with refuse from the manger. By this method the manure is all saved under shelter, and the cows keep perfectly dry and clean, there not being two ounces of manure balls on either cow after being stabled all winter, while cows of neighbors kept tied, often come out in the spring with a heavy coat of mire formed of dried manure. There is not as much odor to this way of managing a stable as the common way, or even of stables where there is a gutter. There is a slow, almost imperceptible fermentation that makes a little heat and this assists in keeping the cattle warm.

It takes a little more room for a double stall for grown cattle than by the tying system. Usually cows are allowed from 36 to 42 square feet, (3 or $3\frac{1}{2}$ x 12.) My cow-stable for two animals is 10x12, the manger running the shorter way, leaving ten feet square. The young cattle being shorter do not require so much length from the manger back.

Two cattle that agree pretty well will require less room boxed together than if separate, but the stable should be roomy enough so that one can have a place for lying down back of where the manure is dropped, when they stand at the manger, as the cattle will, if allowed perfect freedom, lie as indicated. L. B. PIERCE.

Summit county, Ohio.

A MODEL STABLE.

Accompanying this you will find an illustration of a stable which we consider a model one. The main idea in its construction is to put as much comfort and convenience under as little roof as possible.

The barn is 20x24 feet, and is planned with two box-stalls (AA) 9x10 feet, buggy floor (B) 9x18 feet, storage-room for wood and coal (CC) 6x20 feet, harness and blanket closet (D) 2x4 feet, and feed-bin (E) 2x2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The entire room above (20x24 feet) is to be used for hay.

The weather-boarding is of "ship lap," which costs \$22 per thousand feet here. The box-stalls are lined inside with oak, four feet high, the remainder of the distance being run up with ordinary hemlock. The door to the buggy-room is on rollers, and is the full width of the floor. On the middle of the inside of this door are two horizontal cleats, six inches apart, to give room to carry a bar to slide in and out when the door is open, with a catch to secure it on the opposite side. It pays to have bars on every door about a stable. In the summer they are indispensable. The bars on the two stable doors are on hinges, and have notches to secure them when open or shut.

The stable is very warm in winter, and the double wall makes it cool in the summer. At the same time the horses may have a good draft when both doors are open.

The light is given at a window above the doorway, at G, also from a window placed above and behind the hay-racks, which gives light above and to both stalls below, by shining down through the hay-mangers.

The front of the hay-racks is made of iron rods, placed five inches apart, in wooden frames. The frames are set on hinges at the bottom, so that the racks may be dropped down out of the way while the bedding is being thrown down. The fewer holes there are in the floor of a hay-loft, the less room is lost in filling the mow. For this reason the ladder leading to the mow, in this barn, has been placed outside, just beneath the hay-door.

The feed-trough (I) is made by sawing two pieces of two-inch plank in a triangular shape, and nailing on the back, and one board in front and one for the bottom. It should be 20 inches long, 10 inches deep, and 6 inches wide at the bottom and 10 inches at the top. By all means have it made separate from the stall, so it can be hung at the place most convenient, and at the height suited to the horse. Many a horse that scatters and wastes half his feed, and does everything that is mean while eating, will hang his head contentedly in the trough when it is adjusted to a height that suits his taste.

The roof is slate, and put on "single lap," as shown in the accompanying cuts. The slates are 14x24 inches in size, and cost \$4 per square, put on. The only question heretofore between the use of slate and shingle roof has been the question of cost, and now, since the introduction of the new lap, (which I think the accompanying cuts will fully illustrate), with the consequent reduction in price the last bar to its universal adoption has been removed.

Let Fig. 1 represent the right-hand corner of a roof, and A the first slate laid on (it should project two inches over the edge). The left-hand end of A is overlapped by the next slate, B, to the extent of three inches, and so on throughout the first row, letting each succeeding slate overlap the preceding slate three inches.

When the second row is begun, Fig. 2, let the first slate, C, overlap A three inches;

also, let its left-hand end come even with the right-hand end of B. It will now be found that the first slate of the second row projects over the roof three inches too far, which it will be necessary to cut off. The first slate of the third row will project six inches, etc. These pieces cut off will not be lost, however, as they will all come handy to be used at the ends as soon as a start is made.

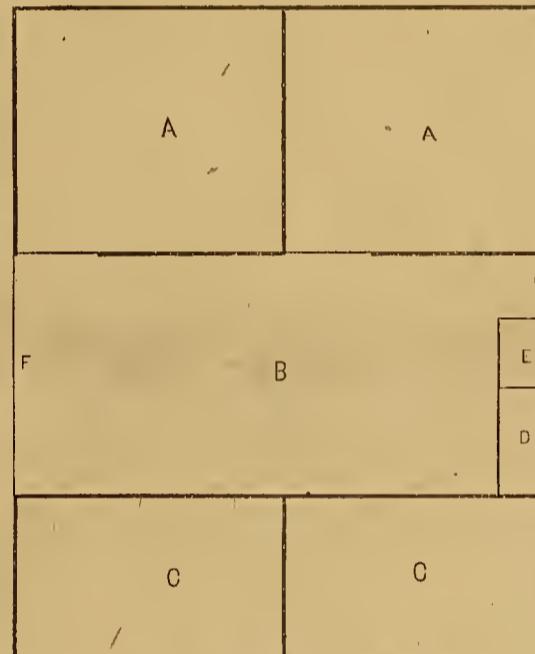
Anybody can lay this roof who can put on a shingle roof. I did it myself, and I am about as awkward as anybody. Wire nails are used, that are a little over an inch long. The holes in the slate can be punched on a regular machine, or with a hammer and an ordinary wire nail, by laying the slate flat on a solid piece of wood. Slate can be cut by drawing a line and punching holes every half inch, when it breaks readily.

This new lap is becoming popular for barns in this section; in fact, it is the only thing that is being used.

E. C. CROSSMAN.

THE FARM DAIRY.

One of the most tiresome tasks that falls to the lot of the average farmer's wife, is the work connected with the dairy. No farm is complete without at least a few cows to supply the table with choice, sweet butter and the favorite dish of cottage cheese, with the refreshing drink of buttermilk or sweet milk, with rich, yellow cream for the strawberries, peaches, ice-cream, etc. Besides this use of the dairy as a source of home supply for the table, on many farms surplus butter is made and sold at the store, to private customers, or shipped to the city markets. In any case,



FLOOR PLAN FOR MODEL STABLE.

there is a vast amount of work connected with the care of the milk.

The advent of the

CREAMERY

Has made it possible to avoid much of the labor by enabling the farmers to dispose of the cream or the milk, and thus relieve the wife and daughters of butter-making.

But in many localities this factory process has not yet been introduced, and in others, either through the fault of the managers or the patrons, the prices paid are not altogether satisfactory, and a return is made to butter-making on the farm. There can be no doubt as to the advantages of the factory if well conducted. Instead of a hundred different churning, a hundred tired boys, a hundred over-worked wives, a hundred lots of butter of several different grades, one churn, or a separator, and a steam engine, with a few attendants, can do the work of all, and a uniform grade of choice butter may be placed on the market.

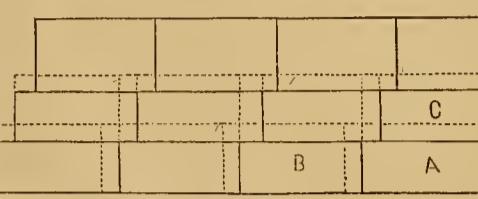
Where favorable prices can be obtained from a factory, farmers who do not keep many cows, and others who may keep quite a number, but who live remote from a good market, will find it to their advantage to patronize the factory rather than make butter for country stores. In this connection, it may be mentioned that the patrons may do much toward assisting the factory to pay good prices, by keeping only good cows and practicing the most scrupulous care in regard to cleanliness. No factory can make choice grades of butter from cream or milk that has absorbed all the ill odors and much of the filth that is found in occasional dairies. Milk is prone to absorb odors as soon as it has reached the temperature of the surrounding atmosphere, so that it is essential that

great care must be exercised, not only in the milking, but in the setting of the milk.

I find in many localities that the

OLD METHOD

Of setting the milk in gallon crocks is still in vogue. The farmer may have the latest improved machinery for performing his work in the fields, but his wife must continue to do her work by the old process. She may perhaps have from fifteen to thirty crocks to lift, skim, empty, scald, wash and air twice a day. She may have a nice, cool place, with a tank of spring or well water in which to set the milk, or she



MODEL STABLE.—FIG. 2.

may carry it all to a cellar in the basement of the dwelling. She has in either case from two to four hours' work each day in caring for the milk.

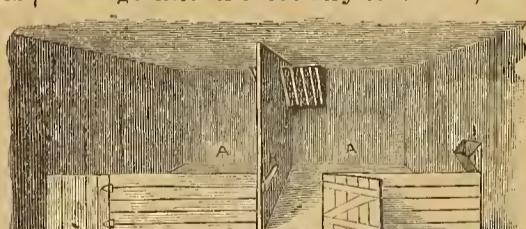
I recently stopped at a farm-house where I learned that butter-making was made one of the sources of income. The farmer was young and full of ambition. He had first started on a farm of forty acres. He next purchased a tract of eighty acres, and this being too small, had but recently purchased a quarter section of good land, and was rapidly improving this when I found him. With two hundred and eighty acres he found it necessary to employ considerable male help, and had at the time of my visit two farm-hands and two carpenters; but no help for his wife.

They were milking ten cows. I did not learn who did the milking, but presume the wife did; at least half of it. She set all the milk in gallon crocks, which she carried to the cellar, and again, after removing the cream, carried up-stairs. The butter was all made into small rolls in winter, or packed in small buckets in summer, and sold in a neighboring market at a fair price.

But how this woman could do the work of the house after five men and three small children, and make fifty to seventy-five pounds of butter of good quality, with none of the dairy conveniences, is more than I could understand. She certainly cannot do thus very long. The farmer may be making money and adding to his acres, but his wife is wearing out the thread of life too fast to enjoy the home they are building. It is to be hoped the farmer will be satisfied with the land he possesses, and not purchase more until he can afford to employ some help for the house.

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

SHEEP OUTLOOK.
The sheep market is full of interest. The offerings are without any precedent, but the prices are sustained beyond all expectations. Good, fat sheep at Chicago are in strong demand, orders being in excess of the supply. The common sort is the bulk of the offerings, yet the price is sustained. Think of Chicago taking from 16,000 to 19,000 sheep every day without the bottom falling out of the trade. One naturally wonders where they all came from and where they go. It is safe to say the great bulk of them are slaughtered and go into the dressed meat trade. Probably some of them go into the country to be fed, and



BOX-STALLS IN MODEL STABLE.

returned when fat, say in thirty to ninety days, owing to present conditions.

The feeding of sheep has been reduced to a science by keen, shrewd men, who make it a business. The careless, rough and tumble practices of twenty years ago, are abandoned as too uncertain and slow. The wind and weather do not interfere with the processes of handling, and the rations are selected with care and so given out that failure is exceptional. During the grass season many go to pastures that would not be taken by shrewd feeders to go into feeding-barns to be crowded to a finish.

Some experience is needed in selecting for a given aim, but there are as many grades of handlers as there are grades of sheep, and the business goes right along like clockwork. Verily, the mutton demand is a safety-valve.

R. M. BELL.

Our Farm.

FROM RAILROAD TO FARMING.

It comes hard when one has to fight the results of one's own teachings. We have been extolling the advantages of farm life—its independence, its health, its purity, its fresh fruits and vegetables, etc., until one cannot wonder when some young people, tempted by these roseate pictures, feel inclined to leave other occupations and rush into farming or gardening. What I dislike to see is this "rushing" business. It makes the application of the "break" desirable in more than one case. A young man in Ohio has been reading up on farming in the FARM AND FIRESIDE for some time, with the idea of changing his occupation from railroad man to that of farmer. He writes:

"I am twenty-five years old now. Started on nothing at fourteen, and have been on the railroad eleven years. My father also is a railroad man. With my folks at home and my own family there are eleven of us. I have \$1,500 cash, and can raise it to \$1,800. I want to know if I can invest that amount or less in say ninety to one hundred and fifty acres of land, and make a living on it for us all. I have worked one year on a farm. My father has had more farm experience. I have a brother thirteen years old to help us, and three grown sisters. I would want to start a greenhouse. Having had experience in railroad work, I have the addresses of all the commission houses in large cities in Ohio. Could sell to them. I will have four or five cows, and raise chickens by incubator (have one now). It is especially the love for my parents which prompts me to go on a farm, as I want to spend my time with them. If I invest in a store or any business, I may not succeed, same as on a farm. If there is a good living, I would be satisfied. I make \$55 to \$75 a month here, and have saved my money. I am strong, and can do all necessary work."

Here is a case that excites all my sympathy, and I do hate to throw cold water on the young fellow's enthusiasm. But he is doing well. He not only makes a good living, but he lays up money; in fact, a considerable amount for his age. Shall I advise him to throw a good thing, a certainty, away for something that may possibly be better and possibly may be a great deal worse? When the present is all bright and the future dark, shall I advise him to take his chances and jump into the darkness? Not I. A year's experience in farm work amounts to little. It is evident, also, that our young friend has a very imperfect idea of the requirements of a farm of ninety to one hundred and fifty acres, as to capital and management. His capital is by far too limited to think of farming on that scale. It would take that amount to purchase farm equipments and stock, leaving nothing for the purchase of the farm. What does a young man want with so big a farm, anyhow?

"Does farming pay?" is the question now only too often asked, and often answered in the negative even by life-long farmers. How can one without farm experience hope to find a more satisfactory solution? Then, what does a young farmer want with a greenhouse, which necessarily must detract his attention from his farm work, which requires every thought and effort? And why an incubator, too—a further division of efforts? No, no. It would be sheer folly to carry this plan into execution, and failure the inevitable result. I speak of all this for the benefit of other young men among our readers who may have been led, by our own enthusiasm in farming and gardening, into some such train of thought and desire as that of my young inquirer. I would not like to lead any one astray, or into dangerous temptations.

On the other hand, I cannot refrain from holding out some hope to my young friend, and to all who are similarly situated. The fact that he has been able to save quite a sum from his earnings shows that there is good timber in him, and that he will be likely to succeed in any undertaking that corresponds with his tastes and abilities, provided his efforts are confined to proper channels. Possibly, the greenhouse idea gives the key to the situation. I am not acquainted with the exact local conditions,

but supposing the place to be an average country town, the following is an outline of what I would do:

In the first place, I would hold on to that \$55 to \$75 position. That is something substantial, and worth keeping. Next, I would try to find, within easy walking or driving distance of my place of work, a small farm that could be bought or rented, say of five to ten acres. I would secure this, and move the whole family there. Such a place is large enough to keep a cow and a horse, and thirty or forty hens. I would not pay attention to incubators or brooders, nor keep a large number of fowls until I was well satisfied that they pay well for their keep. Nor would I set my hopes very high in this respect. Then I would examine closely into the conditions and demands of my local markets, and slowly begin to raise whatever vegetables or small fruits find ready sale in my immediate vicinity or nearest town. Probably I would have to hire a good man for the summer months. Brother could help, and do chores, etc. The labor of a good man can be had for \$20 or so, while I could get my \$55 to \$75 a month. In fact, my time and labor would be too valuable for doing ordinary farm work. If I had a good, near market for early vegetables, or for vegetable plants, I would put up a greenhouse. In short, a trial of this kind would involve little risk, be confined within the limits of the available capital, and have far more prospects of a satisfactory outcome than the proposed plan of going into extensive farming. The production of strawberries, of onions on the new system, of early potatoes—all these are fields worth exploring. You will have to study some of the modern books written on these subjects, and be guided by the teachings of experience. Go slow and sure.

This is about as I should manage things. It remains to be seen which course our young friend will pursue. JOSEPH.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

BLACK RASPBERRIES AS A FARM MARKET CROP.

IN a recent bulletin from the Cornell experiment station, there is a very interesting discussion of the subject of growing black raspberries on farms where they may readily be evaporated, and the product sold at a fair price. The author, Mr. Fred Card, refers to some important points in connection with the work, as follows:



BERRY HARVESTER.

The advent of the berry harvester makes it possible to conduct berry farming in remote locations. Without this implement, the evaporator is just as dependent on location as the grower who sells fresh fruit, for it is only in the vicinity of towns of considerable size that pickers can be secured in sufficient numbers to make a safe business in small-fruit growing.

VARIETIES.

The variety chiefly grown for evaporating purposes throughout the great evaporating sections of central and western New York is the Ohio, yet it is by no means certain that this is the best. With a few of our best growers, the Gregg is coming to supplant the Ohio, and where it proves to be hardy, it is a more desirable variety to grow, especially if picking by hand is practiced, for the large, firm berries are much preferred by pickers. They adhere to the bushes more firmly than most other varieties, and some growers do not find it satisfactory to gather them with the harvester; others, however, do gather them successfully in that way. The variety does not prove so universally hardy and satisfactory as the Ohio.

HARVESTING.

The means of gathering the crop is one of the most important considerations in

growing small fruits, and as before intimated, upon the success of the berry harvester depends the adaptability of raspberries as a farm crop. This harvester is a very simple affair (see picture), consisting of a canvas tray some three feet square, there being only enough wood about it to form a framework and enable it to be moved about.

Under the corner which rests on the ground, there is a sort of a shoe of wood, enabling it to be slid along from bush to bush easily. In one hand the operator carries a large wire hook, with which the bushes are drawn over the canvas, or lifted up if too low down and in the way. In the other hand is a bat resembling a lawn-tennis racket, with which he knocks off the ripe berries. This is merely a canvas-covered loop of heavy wire fastened in a convenient handle. In place of this some use a wooden paddle, but this probably bruises the berries unnecessarily. In gathering by this method, the berries are allowed to become pretty ripe and the plantation is gone over but two or three times in a season. Many dry leaves, some stems and a few green berries are knocked off with the fruit, but the leaves are no disadvantage, for they help to absorb moisture before and after drying, and may aid in preventing mold if the fruit has to stand some time before going to the evaporator. The leaves are quickly taken out by running the fruit through a fanning-mill after it is dried. Some growers fan them out before drying, but this has the disadvantage of bruising and crushing more berries. The berries are usually allowed to stand in the field in boxes for a time after gathering, and any insects which may have fallen in will usually crawl out and disappear.

Growers who have had much experience say that a man will average eight to ten bushels a day with the harvester, although much more can be gathered in the best picking. On one farm visited last year, two men and two girls had gathered thirty-one bushels the day previous in ordinary picking, and one of the men had been in the field only part of the time. This shows the first cost of gathering to be less than half a cent per quart. Running them through the fanning-mill costs but a trifle; then before marketing they are picked over by hand to remove stems, green berries and other litter. This does not cost over one cent a pound, and is sometimes paid for by the pound at that rate, so that the whole cost may be placed at one cent a quart, as against two cents usually paid for hand-picking. Growers who have had experience with both methods seem to be united in the opinion that harvesting yields a better quality of dried fruit than hand-picking, for the reason that, if picked by hand, they cannot afford to look them over again after drying, and so they do not go to market in as clean and nice condition as those which come from the harvester.

Some extensive and general fruit growers find it inconvenient to attend to the matter of looking over the dried product at the same time that other fruits, which follow on after the raspberries, are claiming their attention, and for that reason prefer to pick a large part of the crop by hand and market it fresh, if they can find pickers conveniently. In that case, they find the harvester a great convenience to finish up the last of the crop. Every grower knows how much dissatisfaction and unpleasantness arise in keeping the pickers at their work after the berries begin to get thin. With the harvester, the late berries can all be finished up at one time with a great deal of satisfaction to all concerned. This plan is equally available for those who sell their fruit fresh. The last of the crop can be gathered and dried, thus proving a relief to the market and the patience of the grower and pickers. This plan of harvesting was invented and introduced by Mr. Benedict, of Dundee, N. Y., and is extensively used by berry growers of that region.

CONCLUSIONS.

Black raspberries can be made a profitable farm crop when grown for evaporating purposes, and gathered by the aid of the berry harvester, regardless of proximity to markets. An average yield, with good culture, is about seventy-five to eighty bushels per acre.

An average yield of red raspberries is about seventy bushels per acre. An average yield of blackberries is about one hundred bushels per acre.

A majority of growers find low summer pinching of blackberries best for most varieties.

Growers are about equally divided in opinion as to whether red raspberries should be pinched back at all in summer. If pinched, it should be done low and early. The canes should be made to branch low.

Evaporating red raspberries has not yet proved profitable.

There seems to be no immediate prospect that blackberries can be profitably grown for evaporating purposes.

Berry-canies which made their entire growth after July 6th, stood the winter as well or better than those which grew during the whole season.

Removing all young canes from a plantation bearing its last crop of fruit, materially increases the yield.

Under ordinary conditions, thinning the fruit of raspberries and blackberries, other than that done by the spring pruning, does not pay.

Cutting off the bearing canes early in spring does not induce autumn fruiting of raspberries.

The only remedy for red-rust is to dig up and burn at once every plant found to be affected. Cut away and burn all canes affected with anthracnose pits and spray the plantation with Bordeaux mixture. Root-galls weaken the plants, causing them to appear as if suffering from poor soil. Removing the plants and burning the roots is the only remedy.

KEEPING UP AN ORCHARD.

A very large orchard requires a large capital to run it. One might think that this would "go without saying," but it does not—not always. One of the largest orchards with which I am acquainted—some five thousand trees—though well located upon naturally good land, and set to the best standard varieties, about twenty years ago, has not yet nearly paid for itself, and without a heavy expenditure for fertilizing material never can. The land upon which it is planted had been farmed in the ordinary way for many years before these trees were set. At that time it was in fair condition, as mowing, yielding from three fourths to one ton of hay per acre. It was plowed, set to trees, and subsequently kept in hoed crops, with enough manure to keep the trees growing fairly well. Nothing seemed to be wrong with it until the trees reached bearing size; and then, after several years, it became evident that there was not strength enough in the land to keep up growth and make apples, too. Since then it has "sort o' lagged along," to use the words of a neighbor, "but don't produce anything, hardly." Other orchards of one tenth the number of trees, and no older, are actually giving larger and better crops. Now, what is the matter? Plainly, this orchard wants manure, and unless it gets manure, and a good deal of it, and that pretty soon, it will be "gone up" beyond hope.

Mr. Harris' Northern Spy orchard, of which he wrote in *Walks and Talks*, is a case in point, fully illustrating the situation. It was considered a failure until he plowed and manured it, and then it produced big crops of such big fruit that, if I am not mistaken, less than one hundred of the apples filled a barrel. But it is going to take an immense quantity of manure to bring up this one-hundred-acre orchard like that, or anything near it. In truth, the manure cannot be had, unless it can be brought by the schooner-load (and a good many of them), from some large city to the lake shore upon which this orchard stands. At the ordinary price, I estimate that it would cost not less than seven thousand dollars to get the stable manure into the soil of that orchard which it would require to make it profitably productive. The same effect might possibly be produced for some less money by using, in place of the manure, ground raw bone and Canada ashes.—*Vick's Magazine*.

BLACK CURRANTS.

The bushes are easily propagated from cuttings, which can be planted either in the fall or in the spring. With proper cultivation they make rapid growth and bear quite abundantly the second season after planting. They are long-lived, some on our premises being more than twelve years old to my certain knowledge, and they still bear fruit in great profusion. They are not troubled by the currant-worm. Some think that by planting red currant bushes among the black ones the former escape the ravages of the currant-worm, but I am not quite prepared to vouch for that. So far as I know, they are not troubled by any blight or disease.—*Ex.*

SELF-DEPENDENT STUDENTS.

Noted College Presidents Say They are the Best Students and Make the Best Men and Women. Two Splendid Letters. Free Scholarships.

THE BRYANT AND STRATTON BUSINESS COLLEGE,

BUFFALO, N. Y., November 18, 1893.

Editor Farm and Fireside:

Dear Sir—We are glad to improve the opportunity afforded by your excellent and widely circulated paper of saying a few words of encouragement to young men and women who have their own way to make in the world. It is a well-known fact that a very large percentage of the most successful business men in all the leading commercial centers were born and bred in the country. The majority had no help or encouragement in their struggles for success. They were obliged to depend upon their own resources and fight their way, step by step, and their success has doubtless been due to a great extent to this severe discipline, which teaches economy, perseverance and industry.

During our forty years' experience in preparing young and middle-aged people for the practical affairs of life, both in our school here and in teaching by mail, we have found that those who had to earn the money to pay their own tuition were the ones who most appreciated the advantages we offered, and who secured the best results.

We believe that the chances of success for any energetic young person who has to depend wholly or largely on his own efforts for advancement, are immeasurably better than are those of one who has everything made easy, with no obstacles to overcome.

There is no young man so lowly who cannot raise himself to an honored position if he will but put forth the necessary energy and determination to succeed.

There are just as good opportunities for the young woman. Almost within a stone's throw from our window is one who has succeeded by push and persistent application in reaching a position where she commands a salary of \$1,500 per year. While this, of course, is more than the average woman can hope to receive, it shows what can be done.

Two years ago a girl of sixteen, who was anxious to aid her widowed mother, worked and secured the money to take her through our shorthand school. Now she has a permanent position, and a salary of \$15 per week. This is only one of hundreds.

The first step toward success is a practical education. The many excellent text-books now published, and the system of giving instruction at the student's home by means of correspondence—which need not interfere with other duties—places such an education within the reach of the most humble. With this preparation and an honest purpose, success is certain.

Respectfully,

C. L. BRYANT, President.

THE SPRAGUE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL OF LAW.

DETROIT, MICH., December 4, 1893.

Editor Farm and Fireside:

Dear Sir—We understand that you are purposing to furnish to young men and young women throughout the country an opportunity to gain an education by giving free scholarships in the leading educational institutions of the country, on the condition that they secure subscriptions to your valuable papers. We desire to encourage this very laudable undertaking on your part, as we believe it will be eagerly taken advantage of and greatly enjoyed by very many ambitious young men and women, who might otherwise be denied the advantages of an education.

It is becoming more and more evident in this country that the educated man and educated woman are to receive the places of influence and the highest rewards of effort. Schools of learning are multiplying at so rapid a rate, and the opportunities to obtain an education are being so temptingly presented, that the young men and young women of the near future who, in the face of these opportunities, have neglected to obtain what is thus offered them, will occupy an unenviable position in society and in business life.

We thoroughly believe that there should be no monopoly of education, and that what heretofore has been enjoyed by a few should be the common possession of all. It is for this reason that we desire to encourage your effort. The writer knows as a fact that thousands of young men have obtained an education by the very

means that you offer them. The writer while in college was acquainted with not a few men who were enabled to pay their entire tuition by active effort in canvassing during vacation periods, and many of these young men were among the best students in the college, and made better use of their advantages than did those whose money came from home or from the well-filled pocket-books of some relative or friend.

The young man or young woman who earns his or her money by the course you advise will appreciate an education, and will get greater benefit from it, than will he whose expenses are paid by others.

Teaching by mail, as we do entirely in this university, has of recent years come into great prominence. It contemplates that the student pursue his study in his own home or while at his regular occupation. It does not require him to leave home, and saves him the expenses of board and lodging, fuel, light, traveling expenses and incidentals. It reduces the cost of an education to the minimum.

Your plan is entirely feasible, and the plan offers nothing but what is in the power of any young man or young woman to obtain. If you are fortunate enough to obtain students for our university (and we are sure you will, because there are many who would like an education, but who cannot leave home to obtain it), we shall be glad to give them special attention, whatever may be their line of study with us, whether it be law, journalism, shorthand, bookkeeping, Greek or Latin.

It may interest some of the young men and young women, whom you desire to obtain as canvassers to your publications, and whom you are seeking to interest in the obtaining for themselves of an education and paying for it by canvassing, that some of the greatest names that adorn the pages of American history were early in life canvassers.

It is said that George Washington was a book agent, and that prior to the Braddock expedition he sold over two hundred copies of a work on the "American Savage." Jay Gould, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Mark Twain, Longfellow were canvassers, and the success of the latter is said to have been remarkable. There is now in the possession of the Massachusetts Historical Society a prospectus the poet used, and on one of the blank leaves are the skeleton lines of the celebrated poem, "Excelsior," which he was evidently then incubating.

Daniel Webster paid his second term's tuition at Dartmouth by selling books. Bret Harte was a book agent in California in 1849-50. Rutherford B. Hayes canvassed southern Ohio, selling "Baxter's Lives of the Saints." James G. Blaine began his business career as a canvasser in Washington county, Pennsylvania, selling "The Life of Henry Clay." It is said on good authority that Bonaparte, Bismarck, Cardinal Mezzofant, Count Metternich, Canning, Lord Denham and the poet Coleridge were all, at one time, book agents, as well as were Madam de Staél and Mrs. Jameson. It is even said that Columbus canvassed for a work on "Marine Explorations."

Certainly, if these statements are true, and we have no reason to dispute them, the young canvasser has every reason to take courage, and feel that his employment is an honorable one. Wishing you success, we are

Yours truly,

W. C. SPRAGUE, President.

[NOTE:—The publishers of FARM AND FIRESIDE are furnishing free scholarships to energetic and ambitious young men and women. Send them the address of the school or college which you wish to attend, and get full particulars. Only free tuition and free books are given in mail courses.]

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM NORTH DAKOTA.—People from the southern states find this climate a little too cold in winter, and do not understand the right way to farm here. I find the following plan is the best way to farm in North Dakota. Summer, fallow one half of your farm every year no matter what size. Feed all you grow to hogs, sheep and cattle. Keep from giving mortgages. We have a good country for wood and there is plenty of water ten feet under the surface. One man can dig a well here in one day. Some fine government land is left for any one looking for a homestead. I came here without one cent, worked out and started farming. I should not care to live in any other country, for here it is all right and good farming. Can grow good crops every year.

Dunseith, N. D.

F. V. D.

FROM WESTERN NEBRASKA.—This season witnessed the most complete drought ever known, crops being an absolute failure, except under irrigation. All dry-land farmers are down in the lip, many having left the country. But while dry-land farmers are hewailing

their loss, those under irrigation are smiling while they rake in the sheaves for their irrigated products from their less fortunate neighbors. This is a practical lesson, effectively taught us, here at least, that irrigation pays. This county will soon all be under irrigation, but you know it takes time, time, time, to develop a country by such artificial means. Nearly as much so as it did our forefathers, to hew their farms out of the primeval forests. Unless eastern capitalists take hold with their money, which they are loth to do, the work all devolves upon the few settlers who mostly have only the same means as the common renter in the East, and depend on their labor for the support of themselves and family. However, in the past four years, by this means and by bonding ditches as completed, more than half this county and portions extending into several others, have been brought under irrigation, and all this county is under survey, that is not too near the hills to be reached from the river, ready to begin work. This valley has 249 miles of completed ditches, with an area of 138,000 acres under them, with 207 miles under survey and construction, that when completed will water 207,000 more acres. Then its success as an agricultural country will depend on the farmer entirely. Mr. Frank Miller, of harness-oil fame, of New York city, after coming and viewing the prospect, pronounced it the most flattering he ever saw, and has undertaken one of the large ditches himself, besides investing in land. In coming here, bring plenty of patience, perseverance and all the money you can raise. You will need it to live on an irrigated farm, or to purchase one under irrigation. Free claims and undeeded lands under survey, will cost you from \$500 to \$800, or \$1,000, according to location. These will have to be homesteaded, while deeded quarters under survey or under ditches range from \$1,000 to \$2,000, according to lay of land. No government land worth taking can be had. We are positively certain to have the Burlington railroad through here by next spring, as the extension of its branch from Alliance, Nebraska, to Cheyenne, Wyoming, has been announced for that time by some of its leading men. This line runs directly through these valleys and will be a big hoon for irrigation. Even without irrigation there is a promise for the coming season of crops, as much moisture has fallen this fall and winter. These western counties, when properly farmed, will support a dense population, estimated by some at 25,000 to the county, where now a thousand barely exist. Sugar beet, specimens sent from here analyzed a larger per cent of sugar, than from any other county in the state. Grains and all kinds of vegetables do well. The climate is similar to that of Frankfort, Kentucky, mild in winter and cool and invigorating in summer.

Gering, Nebraska. A. V. F.

FROM MISSOURI.—I was born in Jackson county, Alabama; I have been in the eastern, middle and western portions of Tennessee, the northern part of Georgia, in North Carolina, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, Colorado, Indian Territory and Missouri. After putting advantages and disadvantages together, I find no place that suits me better than Wright county, Missouri. It takes "all the fat to fry the lean" anywhere you go, and "the best place for a poor man is where he is satisfied." This is a rough country, but not as rough as some places I have seen. Gasconade river with several tributaries heads in this county, making this a series of hills and small bottoms. The hills are covered with black-jack, black oak, black gum, white oak, post-oak and dogwood; the bottoms have water or burr oak, sycamore, linn, elm, ash, white maple and black and white walnut. The underbrush in this county is elder, sumac, gooseberry, huckleberry and hazel-brush. We have good water and good range. There are in this county between 1,600 and 2,000 acres of government land subject to the settler according to the provisions of the homestead law; rough, but good land. Why is it not settled up? Because of misrepresentation. People claim to have twelve acres in cultivation when, if measured, it would run from six to nine acres. We raise wheat, oats, rye, buckwheat, corn, potatoes, tobacco and all kinds of vegetables. Peaches, pears, apricots, apples, cherries, plums and grapes and all kinds of berries do well here. I think the land will yield from 30 to 60 bushels of corn, wheat 12 bushels and oats 17 bushels per acre. Iron and lead ore are abundant.

Geraldine, Mo.

J. R.

If you need Any seed Send to Tweed. 5 pks., Flower or Veg. 10c. Seed Almanac Free. H. E. TWEED, BOX 33, RIPLEY, O.

What a wonderful thing is a live seed. Immature, old or dead it may look the same. How to know? Old gardeners say that

Burpee's seeds grow.

This is the proof of life. When grown we give our word you will be satisfied—your success is ours. BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL for 1894, 172 pages, tells all about the Best Seeds that Grow. The newspapers call it the Leading American Seed Catalogue. Yours free for the asking if you plant seeds.

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO., Philadelphia.

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BANKS FAIL! TRUSTS BETRAY. 90 OF EVERY 100 FAIL IN BUSINESS. BUT THE GROUND THE SOURCE OF ALL WEALTH IS SECURE.

THE BEST FARM IN KANSAS FOR EITHER STOCK OR FARMING. SITUATED IN COLONY. ANDERSON CO. EASTERN KAS. FOR SALE. WRITE FOR PARTICULARS TO G. W. KELLER, J. B. LEWIS, COLONY, 301 CONGRESS ST., KAS. BOSTON, MASS.

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Hood's Pills cure all liver ills, biliousness, jaundice, indigestion, sick headache. 25c.

Better than Ever for 1894.

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Is Different from Others.

It is intended to aid the planter in selecting the Seeds best adapted for his needs and conditions, and in getting from them the best possible results. It is not, therefore, highly colored in either sense; and we have taken great care that nothing worthless be put in, or nothing worthy be left out. We invite trial of our Seeds. We know them because we grow them. Every planter of Vegetables or Flowers ought to know about our three warrants; our cash discounts; and our gift of agricultural papers to purchasers of our Seeds. All of these are explained in the Catalogue, a copy of which can be yours for the asking.

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For 25c. in stamps or money we will send by mail one pk., each of the following rare Flower Seeds. Aster, extra choice mixed; Balsams, new double; English Snow, Pinanthus, Eastern Queen, most beautiful of all; Celosia Glasgow; Grand Prize; Cosmos Hybridus, best and finest mixed; Poppy, new Golden Gate; Pansies; Imperial German Double; Phlox drummondii, Wilson's choice strain; Verbena, new mammoth, large flowering; Zinnias, new double crested and curled; one splendid Climbing Plant; one beautiful Everlasting Flower; in all 12 full size pkts. with directions for cultivating for 25 cts. Five Collections, \$1.00. Our beautiful illus. 112 page Catalogue accompanies each order. Address SAMUEL WILSON, Seed Grower, MECHANICSVILLE, PA.

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The best vegetables come from the South, and the best vegetables grown there are produced from Wood's Seeds. They are unequalled in quality, and will grow North, South, East or West—wherever they are planted. Wood's Seed Book for 1894 is a complete history of current progress in planting. It helps you to select the best things to plant and tells you the best way to plant them. Write for it, and current prices of any Grass, Clover, or other Field Seeds required.

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The Largest Seed House in the South.

Many Old Worn-Out FARMS require so much fertilizing that farms and gardens The rich, loamy soil of Michigan Farms produces a fine crop without this expense. The near markets, general healthfulness of climate and freedom from cyclones, blizzards, together with good society, churches, etc., make Michigan Farms the best in the world. Write to me and I will tell you how to get the best farms on long time; low rate of interest.

O. M. BARNES, Land Commissioner, Lansing, Mich.

Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

CAPT. PHILLIPS' TANK BROODER.

CAPT. PHILLIPS, of Chicago, sends us a design of his tank brooder, and he states that he uses five of them, each accommodating fifty chicks, the loss being only seven chicks from the whole until they were sent to market. The cost of the tank is about three dollars.

Fig. 1 shows the tank, of galvanized iron, 20x30 inches and 1½ inches deep. A is the boiler, of oblong shape, 7 inches high, and 7 inches in diameter one way and 5 inches

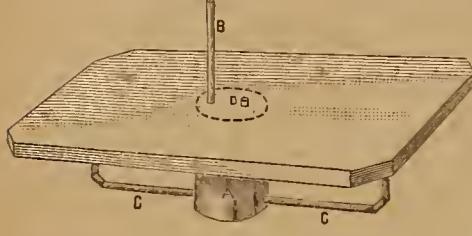


FIG. 1.

the other (see plan Fig. 2). B is a smoke-pipe, or draft chimney, from the lamp. CC are two 1½-inch pipes from boiler to bottom of tank. These pipes give perfect circulation. They are covered with flannel, tightly drawn. The bottom of the tank is also covered with flannel, and the flannel on the pipes is fastened to the flannel on the bottom of the tank, as shown at Fig. 6, the object being to imitate the breast and body of the hen. The tank is held in place by a tin or sheet-iron upright pipe, made to fit closely to the boiler. D is the cap, or opening, for pouring water into the tank.

Fig. 2 shows the tank turned upside down, the parts being represented by the same letters as in Fig. 1, except that X is explained at Fig. 5.

Fig. 3 shows the brooder and tank set up, but cut in half through the middle, to show the arrangement. The tank is shown, H being the tank-supporter pipe and R the floor of the brooder. S is a three-inch hot-air chamber, the heat from the lamp warming this chamber so as to keep the floor barely warm, never hot. P is the lamp-box and O is the lamp. N indicates the hinges, or where the door top opens, and L the handle. V is the feed-box, and

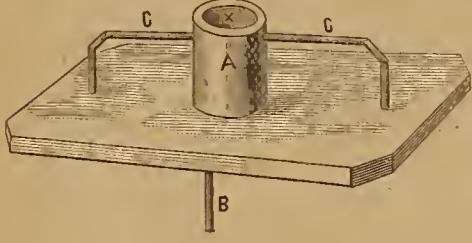


FIG. 2.

is movable. The lamp is the Gem lamp, with 1½-inch wick, being safe, as it has two inches of water over the oil, keeping it cool. The Summer Queen will also answer.

Fig. 4 is the brooder complete, and the box being 4x6 feet, one foot high at each end and 14 inches in the center, thus giving a slight incline to shed water. The top is a door or lid, having hinges at the center, and a handle at the right, and the

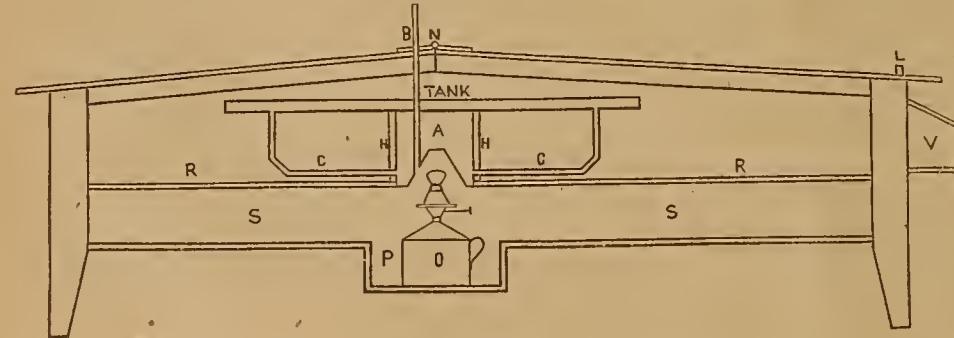


FIG. 3.

feed-box at the end. On each side, front and back, is a window, 6x30 inches. B is the chimney.

Fig. 5 is a cone-shaped arrangement to the boiler, showing how the smoke is carried from the lamp, B being the pipe and O the lamp. It is also shown at X, Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 shows how the flannel is fastened over the pipes and to the bottom of tank.

The brooder uses but little oil after once heated; will hold fifty chicks, and a run can be attached to it for them. It being a hot-water brooder, it holds the heat well and uniformly. The brooder costs but little, and can be made by any mechanic.

SMALL FLOCKS PAY.

Small flocks always pay, because they assist in appropriating waste food that would be otherwise of no value, and the labor bestowed upon a small flock is of no consideration whatever, as a child may perform all the work of feeding. When we receive the records of a small flock of a dozen hens we are always reminded that the cost is lower than for a large flock, and a profit of two or three dollars per hen is not unusual. But when it comes to keeping large numbers the conditions are then changed. It requires work to have them in good laying condition, and the work must be given by a man. The table scraps, which are so potent with a small flock, become an insignificant portion of the feed for a large number, and the farmer or poultryman finds his expenses for food and labor increased more, proportionately, for a large flock than for a smaller one.

It is admitted, however, that the small flocks pay, and those who are sufficiently interested to have a few hens are never disappointed. In fact, we know of nothing which gives more satisfactory results or affords greater pleasure than a flock of about a dozen hens. Each hen in the flock is well known to every member of the family, and if one person neglects them, some one will be sure to notice the fault. They are pets, and receive the very best of care. If the weather is severely cold, or a rain-storm sets in, the hens are looked after as carefully as if they were members of the family. And the hens will lay also, and well repay for all the care that may be bestowed upon them.

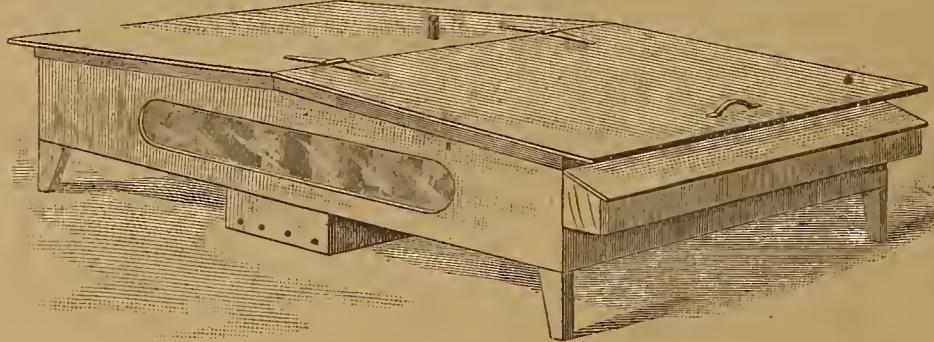


FIG. 4.

Now, there is no reason why the large flocks cannot be made to do as well as the small ones. After all, the main secret of success is the care and the variety of food afforded; but it may be added that those who keep but a few hens (mostly those living in the suburbs of cities) aim to procure something good. The pure breeds are used, because it is a pleasure to have them, scrubs being rare. When the farmers adopt this plan they will find greater profit. The one who begins with a small flock and gradually increases the number, is the one who is usually the most successful.

CORN-MEAL FOR CHICKS.

Corn-meal is considered an excellent food for chicks, but it may be improved by mixing a raw egg with one pint of the corn-meal. Beat the egg well, first adding a pinch of salt, and then gradually add the corn-meal until the whole is well mixed. No water should be used, as the corn-meal should be dry and crumbly. If preferred, sifted ground oats may be mixed with the corn-meal. We suggest rolled oats, given every other day, as a variety, and once a week a tablespoonful

a poultry show, where he can be better educated in a short time and at a very insignificant cost for admission.

SELLING OFF THE SURPLUS.

It would be money saved if one half the stock was sold early in the winter. The usual mistake made is that of attempting to keep two hens where only one should be retained, the result being that the flock is crowded. This happens more frequently in the winter than in the summer, because during the warm weather the fowls can get out and forage, but in winter they have only the floor of the poultry house, and they are thus kept together during the day as well as at night. A space of ten square feet should be allotted each fowl for exercise. A house 10x10 feet is not too large for ten hens, and one male and a dozen hens are sufficient as the maximum number for that space. It will pay to sell off the surplus. Measure the space you have in square feet, and then divide by ten, which will give you about the proper proportion of the number of hens which should be retained, that will be properly accommodated with room.

THE CHEAPEST FOODS FOR WINTER.

Although grain has long been recognized as the best and cheapest of foods that can

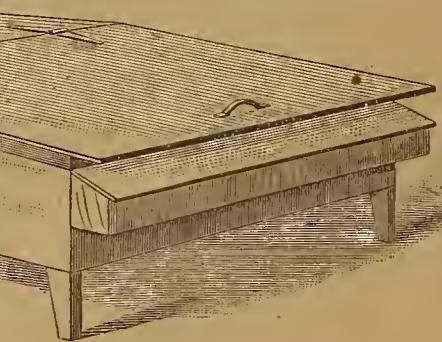


FIG. 5.

be used for poultry, yet the cost of all foods depends upon the results obtained. Wheat at ten cents per bushel is not cheap at all if the object is to secure eggs. There are substances that are cheaper than wheat because they induce the hens to lay.

First, we may mention meat and bone, fresh from the butcher, cut up and fed once a day, a pound per day to sixteen hens, being an allowance. Next we may add clover hay, cut very fine, scalded, a little corn-meal sprinkled over it, and given warm in the morning, a half pound being sufficient for twenty hens. The clover is rich in lime that is soluble, and also contains nitrogen. The bones are food and provide the phosphates. If green

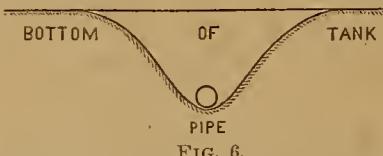


FIG. 6.

bone and meat are scarce, use the ground commercial articles. Grain may be given also, and once a week give a pound of linseed-meal, mixed with ground grain, to fifty hens. Do not overfeed, but provide these foods as variety in feeding, keeping the hens warm, and they will lay during the whole winter.

FREEZING OF THE WATER.

It is too laborious to carry water to the poultry in winter, when the cold is severe. There is one method that may be practiced, however, which will answer all purposes. It is to use an open wooden trough, fill it with warm water early in the morning, at noon and at night, allowing the hens to drink, and then overturning the trough, so as to throw the remainder of the water out of the trough. The hens will thus secure all the water required, and the warm water will invigorate them and serve to enable them to better withstand the cold.

IT PAYS.

It pays to read the papers, especially your own Farm paper, for often in this way good business opportunities are brought to your attention. It may be that you wish to secure a bargain in implements, or a situation for one of your boys, or you wish to use your spare time to good advantage; if so, B. F. Johnson & Co., of Richmond, Va., have an advertisement in another column that may interest you.

FARM-POULTRY.

The Best Poultry Paper

IN THE WORLD.

Write for SAMPLE COPY: Sent Free.

"It opened up a new field and cultivated it thoroughly."—So says the *Fanciers' Journal*.

"FARM-POULTRY is covering itself with glory."

—Thus the *Philadelphia Farm Journal* writes us.

It is worth \$1.00. It Teaches How to

Sent on Trial Six Months for 25 CENTS.

A Few Hens.

IF YOU MENTION THIS PAPER:

One department "Answers to Correspondents," is worth ten times the subscription price to anyone; explains many things apt to trouble even old breeders. Send for Index to first 3 Vols. free; judge yourself, if as much instructive matter can be bought anywhere, for many times the price. Remit cash or stamps. This special offer good for only three months. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass.

2,000 FOWLS for sale from 50 varieties. Send 3-cent stamp for Illustrated Catalogue. Chas. Gammeltinger, Columbus, O.

MONITOR INCUBATOR.

MEDAL and DIPLOMA awarded at World's Fair. Illustrated Catalogue for stamp.

A. F. WILLIAMS, 28 Race St., Bristol, Conn.

GEM CLOVER CUTTER. BEST in the world. WILSON BROS. EASTON, PA.

INCUBATORS & BROODERS. Broodars only \$5. Best and cheapest for raising chicks; 40 first premiums; \$3.00 testimonials; and for catalogues. G. S. SINGER, Box 533, Cardington, O.

\$20-INVINCIBLE HATCHER. MAKE your poultry pay more than your wheat. MONEY refunded, if this Incubator does not hatch as well as any one made. Send 4c stamp for No. 36 catalog. BUCKEY INCUBATOR CO. SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

THE WORLD'S FAIR Highest Awarded. MEDAL and DIPLOMA, on our INCUBATOR and BROODER Combined. If you are interested in Poultry, it will pay you to send 4c stamp for 72 page catalogue, giving valuable points on Poultry Culture. Address Reliable Incubator Co., Quincy, Ill.

POULTRY ALMANAC, CATALOGUE and Guide to Poultry Raisers. Descriptions of over 40 varieties of fowls, 50 illustrations, plans for convenient Poultry Houses, Remedy for all Poultry ailments, tells how to raise and manage poultry, 60 pages 7x10, in colors. Price only 10c. Address C. C. SHOEMAKER, Freeport, Ill., U. S. A.

SIMPLEX HATCHER. The Most Perfect INCUBATOR MADE.

Quick and certain; Hatches every egg that a hen could hatch; Regulates itself automatically; Reduces the cost of poultry raising to a minimum. Best in every way—lowest in price. Send for Illus. Catalogue. SIMPLEX HATCHER CO., QUINCY, ILL.

THE IMPROVED VICTOR INCUBATOR. Hatches Chickens by Steam. Absolutely self-regulating. The simplest, most reliable, and cheapest first-class Hatcher in the market. Circulars free. GEO. ERTEL & CO., Quincy, Ill.

WEBSTER & HANNUM GREEN BONE CUTTER CAZENOVIA, N.Y. CHEAP, DURABLE, AND WARRANTED. AWARDED 1ST PREMIUM (OVER CUTTERS COSTING DOUBLE AND MORE) AT GREAT-INTERSTATE FAIR ELMIRA, N.Y. N.Y. STATE FAIR, SYRACUSE, N.Y. FOR AND 1ST AND 2ND PREMIUM AT WESTERN N.Y. FAIR CIRCULAR HELD AT ROCHESTER, N.Y.

HATCH CHICKENS BY STEAM WITH THE IMPROVED EXCELSIOR INCUBATOR.

Simple, Perfect, and Self-Regulating. Thousands in successful operation. Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at less cost than any other Hatcher. GEO. H. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.

POULTRY MEN. Have proved that green cut bone is the greatest egg producing food in the world. Mann's Bone Cutter. Warranted to cut bone with the meat and gristle, without clog or difficulty, or money refunded. Illus. catalogue free if you name this paper. F. W. MANN CO., MILFORD, MASS.

THE INCUBATOR AS AN EDUCATOR.

A single hatch from an incubator should repay its cost. There is no way to learn the poultry business thoroughly, except by operating an incubator. The work is usually done in the winter, and the progress of the chick from the shell to market can be watched carefully.

The hatching of eggs with an incubator is no longer considered a novelty. The greatest difficulty in the way is to secure good eggs. This is not an easy matter in winter, and hence any and all kinds of eggs are used, provided enough of them can be gotten to fill up the egg-drawers, a view of the eggs after they are placed in the drawers disclosing them to be of all sizes, shapes and colors, which should then be assorted. The object should be to secure eggs from yards where the hens are not overfed and where the males are active. All extra large eggs or those of very small size should be discarded. If these precautions are taken, the result will be good hatches. Bear in mind that a hen is almost useless for incubation in winter. The best way to raise early chicks is to hatch them in an incubator and raise a large lot of them in the brooder, and thus save labor.

PLANS OF AN INCUBATOR.

Reports from all quarters to us state that the plans given by us to our readers have enabled hundreds of them to make an incubator which gives very satisfactory results. These plans are sent simply to create an interest in artificial incubation and to induce the readers to enter a field that they would otherwise not notice. We do not sell incubators, offering only the plans, which can be obtained by addressing the editor of the poultry department, P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, N. J., and inclosing two stamps for postage and stationery. The incubator is on the hydro system, requiring no lamp.

LEAVES AND CHAFF.

We again wish to call attention to the necessity of keeping the floor of the poultry-house covered with leaves or chaff. When there is plenty of litter on the floor the lower drafts are shut off and the house will be much warmer. It also affords excellent scratching material for the hens, keeping them busy, affording them an opportunity to keep warm by working, and preventing them from becoming indolent and overfat.

UNDER THE ROOSTS.

When the droppings freeze and are difficult to remove, it is only necessary to add sifted coal ashes or dirt every day. Should the weather then turn warm, a quart of salt may be sprinkled over the droppings, which will soon cause them to thaw, when they may be cleaned away. The salt will not injure the droppings, but will be injurious to the fowls if they eat it.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Vertigo.—I. F. C., Glencoe, Mich., writes: "I have a fatal disease among my fowls. They seem to be crazy, and run around in a circle, and are almost blind. In the last stages of the disease their crops become filled with wind, and when held up by the legs there is a watery discharge from the mouth."

REPLY:—The symptoms indicate that they have been very highly fed and are perhaps somewhat closely confined. The blindness indicates a draft in the poultry-house. Reduce the food one half, and give them litter in which to scratch. Put a teaspoonful of bromide of potash in each half gallon of the drinking-water.

Breeds and Feeds.—W. L., Battle Lake, Mich., writes: "1. How much does a Dark Brahma male and female weigh; also Light Brahma? 2. Which breed is best for laying purposes in winter? 3. What kind of food should be given?"

REPLY:—1. Light Brahma cock, 12 pounds; hen, 9½ pounds; Dark Brahma cock, 11 pounds; hen, 8½ pounds. 2. Perhaps the Light Brahma is equal to any. 3. Give a variety of food, including meat, bone and cut clover.

Scaly-leg.—Mrs. M. K., Chesaning, Mich., writes: "The legs of my hens are covered with large scales, and they seem to be increasing. What shall I do for them?"

REPLY:—It is due to a minute parasite, which deposits the substance on the legs. Anoint with crude petroleum and lard, twice a week for several weeks, and it will pass away.

Barley or Rye.—W. G. S., Petoskey, Mich., writes: "How do barley and rye compare for egg production? Should they be fed ground or whole?"

REPLY:—Barley is preferred, though rye may be used as an addition to the ration. They should be fed whole.

The best Woven Wire Fencing is always the cheapest. Sedgwick Bros. Co., Richmond, Ind., make the best. Write them for catalogue and mention Farm and Fireside.

5 NAMES WANTED. We want the names of five persons in your neighborhood, who are, or have been, agents. We will send a complete bound book, containing seventy-five complete stories by popular authors, to any one who will send us these names. Address LADIES HOME COMPANION, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

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CAPONS FOR PROFIT.

IV.

SECOND OPERATION.—The turning of the bird is quickly done. Lift up the lever, taking hold of the chick's legs, turn him over on his right side, as shown in accompanying illustration, and readjust the lever to hold his feet. Again shift the table so the light will fall fully upon the front of the fowl, and into the opening to be made on the left side. The operator this time stands on the other side of the table, next to the chick's back, as before. Then a few feathers are plucked out, the moist sponge wiped over the bared spot and the surrounding plumage, the incision made, and the whole operation gone through with in exactly the same manner as was done on the other side. The fowl really is placed in a rather more convenient position to be operated on, than when lying on its left side. A good deal of bleeding is sometimes going on after the testicle is removed. While a little blood left inside among the bowels, would probably do no harm, there may be more than the system can absorb in a natural way, and the clotted gore might harden and cause inflammation, blood-poisoning and death. At any rate it is advisable to remove this blood by the means already mentioned; namely, mopping up with little bits of moistened sponge. Sometimes you will have to introduce one bit after another, half a dozen or even a dozen times, letting the sponge soak up, then withdrawing it with the tweezers, and squeezing it out in warm water. At other times there may not be a drop of blood spilled. If that is the case

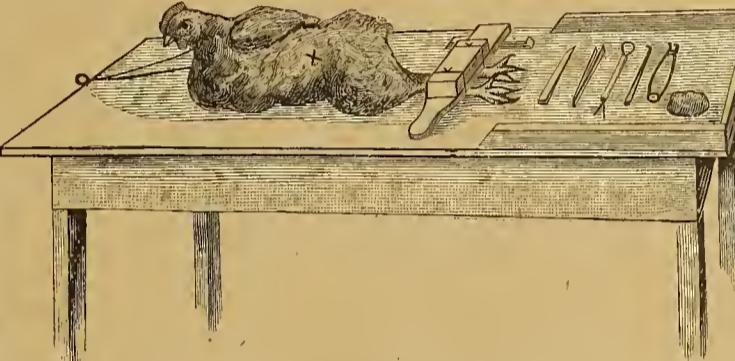
or otherwise, when the flow of blood ceases, see that no feather, bit of sponge or other foreign article, is left inside; then withdraw the spreader, and loosen the bird. Next mark it in some way to show that it has undergone the operation. One of the easiest and quickest ways to do that is to clip off the end of one toe. All my capons have a stub inside toe on the left foot. The style of marking is a matter of individual choice. You can use one of the twenty-five-cent chicken markers with which to punch a hole or two through the web between two toes; or you might use wire rings, or any other of the various devices. A stub toe, however, suits my purpose as well as anything. Put the fowl's foot upon the table, hold a keen knife-blade across the end of toe to be amputated, with knife point down upon the table, and then with a quick move press down the handle of knife, like a lever, and thus clip off the toe end. It seems to make no particular difference to the fowl, either at the time that it is done or afterwards.

Of course, you will occasionally lose a bird. When in removing the testicle you rupture a big blood-vessel, the bird will die under your hands, usually in less than ten minutes. In that case, chop his head off, if you so prefer, and have a fine, spring-chicken dinner. Accidents of this kind, however, should not occur oftener than once in fifty operations on ordinary fowls, even with the beginner. But if they do occur there is no loss, as the bird has its full value for table use. A capon that comes out alive after the operation, is "out of the woods," and complete recovery is swift.

AFTER TREATMENT.—At the beginning of the caponizing season, I put up what I call my "capon hospital." This is simply a space on one side of the barn, say eight by four feet covered with a low roof as a protection from rain and sun, and tightly enclosed with wire netting. Inside is a coop in which the convalescent fowls spend the nights. A box in one corner is kept well supplied with soft food (bran and meal moistened with skim-milk), and a dish in the other corner contains the water which should be frequently renewed. Some of our instructors tell us to feed lightly at first; others advise giving all the food that the birds will eat. I usually have tried to keep the box supplied with food all the time; but it is a hard task, for the birds have a keen appetite, and eat a great deal. Just as soon as a capon is put into the "hospital," and once gets sight of the feed-box, he will forget all the trials which he has just experi-

enced, and at once proceed to fill his crop. It is well to keep the birds confined in close quarters for at least eight days after the operation. Many of them "wind-puff" badly, a lot of air gathering under the outside skin and giving the capon a puffed-up appearance and probably causing much inconvenience. I usually looked the confined birds over once a day, and gave speedy relief where needed, by pricking the puffed-up skin with the point of a keen pen-knife. Part of the birds do not need this attention; others wind-puff right along for a week or so, and need frequent touches with the pen-knife. Usually you can tell by the appearance, and always by the feeling, whether there is wind-puff, and causes for treatment. In consequence of this confinement, of the treatment and of their voracious appetite, the capons become exceedingly tame and tractable.

On some occasions I have given the capon his full liberty right after the operation, letting him run, feed and roost with the rest of the fowls. Neither this liberty, nor the dry (grain) feed, nor want of prompt attention, when wind-puffed, seemed to retard his perfect convalescence. If I noted an especially puffed-up appearance, I would perhaps catch the bird, and give him relief with the knife. Still, I believe it is a good plan to keep the birds confined for from eight to ten days, giving soft food and proper attention otherwise.



OPERATING TABLE.

The straw, leaves or soft earth on the floor of the "hospital" should, for the sake of cleanliness, be often renewed.

The chief aim, from the time the bird is caponized to the time of sale or slaughter, should be to produce the heaviest possible weight, and for this reason a liberal supply of flesh-forming food should be given. During the summer and earlier fall months, I feed mostly bran slightly mixed with meal and moistened with skim-milk, or buttermilk, and whole wheat. Corn is not a proper food then; but some variation is provided for by giving an occasional mess of peas, buckwheat or oats. My fowls have free range, and find good pasture on the lawn and in a piece of rye and rape sown for this very purpose, close by the barn. Grasshoppers, bugs, worms, table-scrap, etc., all help to fill up and to produce capon meat. A vessel in the yard is kept supplied with skim-milk almost all the time. When cold weather

sets in, corn takes the place of wheat in the evening ration, but wheat-bran, I believe, can be used as chief food right along. Of course, bone and meat and chopped-up vegetables should all be given freely and frequently. There are now good hand mills to be had at reasonable cost which will chop, or rather shave the hardest bone, the toughest gristle or meat, and all kinds of vegetables. Whoever has a large flock of poultry to feed needs one of them badly.

Let me say, that I take great pride and delight in my flock of capons. They eat a good deal, but they grow fast, are tame, tractable, peaceable and, indeed, the most satisfactory lot of fowls I ever raised. What profit there is in them in cash, that, I hope to be able to tell at some future time.

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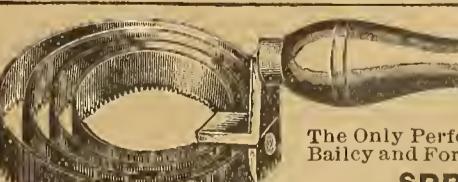
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Queries.

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Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Wild Parsnips.—A. S., Millersburgh, Ohio. The poisonous wild parsnip is a different plant from the common garden parsnip.

Preparing Wheat for Hog Feed.—C. G., Belmont, Nev., writes: "Will you please tell me the best way to feed wheat to hogs for fattening? Should it be cooked and fed with other food, or alone or raw?"

ANSWER:—Some farmers have been very successful feeding it cooked, and probably that is the better way. Others have it ground coarsely and make a slop of it. We have just received a report from one who fed it cooked and claimed that it was bringing him nearly one dollar a bushel at the present price of pork.

Queries Again.—G. E. M., Indiana, writes: "I wish to plant an acre in onions next spring. Which is the best market-onion for the northwestern part of this state? How much seed? Where should I get it? Where is my best market? My ground is a mixture of sand and black soil. What is the best fertilizer?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Don't do it. When you have so many questions to ask about it, don't engage in this business at the acre rate. A quarter of an acre should be the very limit. Plant Yellow Danvers, if seed is sown in open ground, or Prizetaker, if plants are to be raised under glass for transplaiting. Read modern books on onion growing. Buy seed of any reliable seedsman.

Manure for Melons.—G. I. L., Tennessee, writes: "I grow melons for market. In the manure which I usually put under the hills, I find small, white worms produced by horseflies which lay their eggs in the manure. These worms get into the roots of the melon plants in spring and injure them greatly. How can I destroy these worms?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—The maggots found in horse manure in the warm season are probably those of the common house-fly, and I greatly doubt that they do the least injury to your melons. But if you desire to destroy soft-bodied worms in manure or soil, the addition of fresh burnt, pulverized lime would accomplish the object. What I would advise you to do, however, in order to keep the melons free from the attack of insects, worms, bugs, etc., is to mulch the ground around the plants freely with tobacco dust. You can put it one or two inches thick. Watering with a weak solution of saltpeter in water (say a teaspoonful to the gallon), may also give good results.

Soiling—Bloating.—H. P. H., Ferndale, Cal., writes: "I would like an opinion on soiling cows. Does it reduce their flow of milk? Red clover grows well here but there is much trouble with bloat."

ANSWER:—On high-priced lands near good markets for milk, cream and fine butter, soiling can be made very profitable. Instead of the flow of milk being reduced by soiling, it can be kept up to its highest mark and will be more regular than by pasturing. The cows are kept in yards suitably provided with feed-racks, shelter and a supply of good water. A succession of forage crops, rye, grasses, clover, alfalfa, millet, corn, etc., furnishes the green food, which must be cut and carried to the yards daily. Concentrated foods, bran, corn-meal, cotton-seed meal, etc., are fed with them. With good management an acre of ground can be made to support a cow a year. A measure of prevention, is to keep the cattle off from the clover wet with dew or rain. Do not turn them out to pasture until the dew is gone, and let them have dry feed before being turned out.

Osage Orange Fence.—F. L. T., Lawyers, Va. You can buy the plants from nurserymen cheaper than you can raise them from the seed, as it is somewhat difficult. Plow the ground in the autumn, leaving the open furrow on the fence-line. This will give a deep, mellow seed-bed, and you will be surprised at the growth of the young plants. Thorough preparation and good cultivation on soil adapted to the osage orange will give you a good fence in three years. Cut the young seedlings to six inches in length, and trim off the bruised roots. They can be set with a trowel, or a light furrow plowed, the plants laid along one side, and a furrow turned upon the roots. Firm the earth around the plants with the feet. Set out the plants in the spring. For three or four years after planting cultivate four feet of the ground on each side of the hedge-row up to July. One year after planting cut the hedge off close to the ground with a mower or scythe, and fill all the vacancies with new plants. In mid-summer and in autumn cut it back to four inches, to obtain a dense growth near the ground. The third year's trimming should leave the hedge about fifteen inches high, in the form of an inverted V, with a broad base, and the lateral branches close to the ground, clipped at their extremities. Wet places along the line of the fence should be drained before the plants are set out. One year seedlings of the osage orange can be purchased of reliable nurserymen for less than you can raise them. See our advertising columns for addresses of nurserymen, and send for their catalogues.

Butter not Coming.—A. B., Westerlo, N.Y., writes: "What is the matter with our milk? We cannot get any butter. The cows seem to be healthy, are in good order and are fed hay and corn-stalks. We have eburred three times within two weeks, have set the milk where it was warm and where it was cold, have warmed the milk to blood heat when we set it, have done the same with some cream after it was gathered, but it will not separate. We have had the same trouble before, and if you can tell what it is you will confer a great favor."

ANSWER:—Similar queries come to us this time every year. There are several reasons for the trouble; improper food, improper care of the milk and cream, wrong temperature in churning, etc. Sometimes the trouble is due to the fact that the cows are nearing the end of the period of lactation, that is, have been fresh for several months and will be fresh again in a few months. The cream does not separate as readily from the milk of such cows as from that of fresh cows, nor does it churn as easily. In the first place good food and pure water for the cows are absolutely necessary. If you have bright corn fodder or sweet clover hay, add to it some grain rations, bran and

corn-meal, or oats and corn ground together, two bushels of the former to one of the latter. Give salt regularly. Let the cream raise from the milk at a temperature of forty or forty-five degrees, Fahrenheit. Keep the cream at that temperature until you have enough for a churning, but do not keep it too long. Churn three times a week; every day is better if you have enough for a churning. Mix the cream thoroughly and ripen it for a day, or until it turns slightly acid, at a temperature of sixty-five degrees, or a little higher in winter. Do not add fresh cream to it before churning. To warm cream quickly put the cream-can in a can or deep tub of warm water and stir the cream. In winter churn at sixty-five degrees, or a little higher, if you find by experiment that it does better. The butter should come in less than thirty minutes. When the butter comes in granules the size of a wheat grain, draw off the butter-milk, and wash the butter with brine not above sixty degrees. For salting use fine, dairy salt, one half to one ounce to the pound. If your cows have not been fresh recently, treat the fresh milk as follows: As soon as the milk is drawn from the cows, pour into every five quarts of milk one quart of hot water; the cream will rise quicker and separate more perfectly from the milk. You cannot get the right temperature for handling milk, ripening cream and churning, without a reliable dairy thermometer.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.
Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should enclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to DR. H. J. DETMERS, 33 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE:—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

May Need Grooming.—A. J. F., Pt. Rock, Ohio. If your horse's coat of hair is very dirty, good grooming and, maybe, a little more nutritious food, good oats, will constitute the remedy.

Big-jaw.—G. W. S., St. Andrews, Fla. If you will inform me of the nature and the cause of the swelling of your mule's head, or of what you call "big-jaw," I may be able to answer your question. If it is actinomycosis, it is incurable.

Wants to Know How to Fatten His Jack.—J. C. W., Springfield, Tenn. The statement that your jack is seventeen months old, fourteen hands and one inch high and weakly, don't convey any information whatever as to his probable ailment, or the cause of being in a poor condition, unless you do not feed sufficient quantities of suitable and nutritious food. If the latter is the case, feed better and take good care of the animal.

Wants to Know What Killed the Mare.—C. B., Trenton, Md. I cannot answer your question. The cause of death, and the nature of the disease cannot be ascertained from your statement, which only amounts to just this: "there was a gill of dark, clotted blood between the kidneys." Such a blood extravasate can have several causes; for instance, external violence to the spinal column, an aneurism, inflammation of one or both kidneys, inflammatory processes in the psoas muscles, etc.

Partial Prolapsus of the Rectum.—E. F. Z., Florence, Ala. What you describe is nothing more nor less than a partial prolapsus of the rectum. First see to it that your mare is never constipated. If she is, relieve her by feeding a good bran-mash. Wash the prolapsed part with a weak solution of alum or with a two-per-cent solution of tannic acid, and effect a reposition, whenever the prolapsus makes its appearance. When making a reposition, have your hand oiled and see to it that the mucous membrane of the rectum is not injured.

Atrophy of the Shoulder Muscles.—E. L. G., Redfield, Dak., writes: "I have a mare, five years old, which is sweened on the left shoulder. I am using a liniment made of one pint of ammonia to one quart of olive-oil."

ANSWER:—If your horse is not lame, external applications not only are useless, but may even be injurious. All that is necessary is plenty of time, good nutritious food and voluntary exercise. It often requires from six to ten months until the atrophic conditions disappear, or until "the shoulder fills up again." The real trouble consists in a paralytic and flaccid condition of the muscles caused by overstraining. The inactivity causes the shrinking.

Lymphangitis.—J. J. Powell, S. D., writes: "I have a colt which had the distemper last spring. It recovered from that all right, but immediately after some small tumors appeared on the front leg from hoof up to his breast. The tumors are sometimes swollen and hard and occasionally some break."

ANSWER:—The case you describe is probably one of simple lymphangitis or inflammation of the lymphatics. Still, such cases, on account of their great similarity to farcy (external glanders), always must be looked upon with suspicion, and require a thorough examination by a competent veterinarian, who takes all circumstances into consideration, before a definite and reliable diagnosis can be made. If simple lymphangitis, the abscesses may be brought to healing by application of caustics (lunar caustic or sulphate of copper), or, if no destruction is necessary, by applications—say twice a day—of antiseptics, such as diluted carbolic acid, or a mixture of iodoform and tannic acid (1:3). The safest way to arrive at a reliable diagnosis, that is, to decide whether it is farcy or not, is to inoculate the animal with mallein. If reaction sets in it is farcy, or (external) glanders, and if no reaction takes place, it is pretty safe to consider such a case as simple lymphangitis, and then the same may be treated as such.

Maladie du coit.—A. J. B., Arnandville, La. If you are sure in regard to the diagnosis, and this is in a single case only possible, if one knows the source of the infection, and if as yet no paralytic symptoms have developed, the following treatment will effect improvement, and possibly a cure. First, irrigate the vagina for some time, two or three times a day, either with carbolic acid (a one-per-cent solution of carbolic acid), a one-per-cent solution of alum, or a two-per-cent solution of tannic acid, and internally give daily from twelve to twenty grains of corrosive sublimate in shape of an electuary, and from seven to fifteen grains of arsenious acid mixed with the food. If paralytic symptoms and emaciation have already set in, any treatment is in vain.

Knuckling Over.—J. J. E., Grass Creek, Ind., writes: "Please tell me through your paper what to do for a horse? His pastern-joints slip forward when he walks and make him lame."

ANSWER:—What you complain of, is due to overstrained ligaments. The treatment is a tedious one. Still, if one does not lose his patience, something may be accomplished. The simplest treatment probably consists in keeping the shaky joints steady by judicious bandaging. The same must be commenced with at the hoof and must extend at least half way up the shank-bone. The bandage itself must be sufficiently strong and firm to give steadiness to the joint, and be taken off and be reapplied at least once a day, or whenever it gets loose. Besides that the horse must have strict rest, and be kept on a perfectly level floor. The treatment has to be continued for several weeks, and maybe, for a couple of months.

Splint.—H. K., South Pittsburg, Tenn. A splint seldom causes any lameness unless it extends to the knee-joint, or unless the exostosis is very sore and caused by repeated interfering. If the latter is the case, the shoeing has to be attended to in such a way as to prevent interfering. If the exostosis is caused by too much weight or pressure upon the inner splint-bone, this pressure must be relieved by a little paring of the lower border of the inner or medium wall of the hoof, which will make the stand of the horse less bow-legged. The same may be done, thickening the outer arm of the shoe. If the exostosis is an eye-sore, it is best reduced by uniform pressure, for instance, by placing a flat and smooth piece of lead covered with chamois skin over the exostosis, and keep it in place by means of a bandage. In order to prevent necrosis of the skin, the bandage must be removed and be put on again at least once or twice a day, and the bandaging must be commenced with at the foot. If this is too much trouble, a little gray mercurial ointment, say as much in size as a pea, may be most thoroughly rubbed in once a day.

A Fistule.—Mrs. C. N. J., Beaver, Oreg., writes: "Will you please tell me what ought to be done with a young mare which snagged herself in the breast over a year ago. It has been running ever since. It was doctored with a wash of carbolic acid for a while, but that did no good. It was snagged on an old limb of a tree and we thought for a long time there was a piece of the wood still in the wound, but could find nothing in it. The snag entered in the flesh between the fore-arm and breast-bone, rather low down."

ANSWER:—What you describe is undoubtedly a fistule, that is, a chronic, long and narrow suppurating canal, with the bottom lower than the opening. Such a fistule cannot be brought to healing as long as the pus cannot freely flow off from every part. Hence, a lower opening has to be made of the existing opening has to be enlarged in a downward direction so as to effect a free discharge of the pus from every point. It also cannot be brought to healing as long as the walls of the canal, or the immediate surrounding of the same, is composed of degenerated tissue, which lacks vitality, and is impregnated with bacteria. Consequently, this degenerated wall must be removed, or be destroyed by caustics. This applies to all fistules. If in your case, the fistulous canal or canals extend into the sternum or breast-bone, it is a so-called sternum-fistule, which, on account of the porosity of the bone, is the worst kind of a fistule a veterinarian ever has to deal with, and which is considered as incurable by the most eminent authorities. All fistules of long standing are obstinate, and can be brought to healing only if treated in the most rational manner and receive strict and constant attention. They often exhaust the patience of a professional veterinarian, and if the owner of the animal undertakes the treatment himself, the latter, almost invariably, is a failure, no matter how good and how precise the instructions may have been. I, therefore, have only outlined the principles, which have to guide the treatment.

Probably Heaves.—W. N. H., Parson, Mo., writes: "I have two horses, six years old, which have been worked ever since they were four. I concluded to fatten them this fall for the market; they were very thin in flesh so I put them on good pasture. The last of October I noticed they were coughing. I thought they were taking the distemper. So I put them in a warm stable and fed them grain and took good care of them. But they still cough and are not doing as well as they should. I let them have all the corn they want to eat and timothy or millet hay. They appear to have life enough and will cough while exercising, or

while eating hay or corn, or while resting. Their cough seems to be a very dry one."

ANSWER:—Your horses, it seems, are effected with so-called heaves, a disease which may be defined as "a chronic, feverless and incurable difficulty of breathing." Although it is incurable, you can considerably mitigate the affection, if you stop feeding hay, either altogether or substitute for timothy and millet hay, small quantities of wild hay, made up with grain and bran-mashes, and see to it that the bowels of the animals are never constipated. Besides that it is essential that horses affected with heaves should have a spacious, well-ventilated and rather cool stable. A very warm place in the stable increases the difficulty. Your horses probably did not show any conspicuous symptoms of heaves while they were thin in flesh, and never had their stomach and intestines excessively filled with food, although there is, perhaps, no doubt that the affection existed long before you noticed the coughing.

Haemoglobinuria.—H. C. G., Latrobe, Pa., writes: "I have a mare that was in good health on Tuesday morning, November 28. I hitched her to haul a load, and drove about a mile, when she took something like cramps. I took her back to the barn and sent for a veterinarian. He came and took a gallon and a half of urine from her which was as black as tar water, and left three doses of medicine. She is weak across the kidneys, cannot stand on her hind legs but can move around the stable on her front feet. I feed her on warm bran and a little oats. She eats and drinks well, does not seem to suffer very much and looks as bright as when well."

ANSWER:—Your mare suffers, or rather suffered, from haemoglobinuria, luinbago gravis, or so-called azoturia, because long before this reaches you the same has died or recovered—probably the former. It will, therefore, be of no use to dwell on the treatment, and be more to the point to say a few words in regard to prevention. This disease, as a rule, only attacks horses in good flesh and accustomed to steady work, if the same have been standing idle in the stable for several, or perhaps, only a few days, have, while idle received the same amount of food, which was given them, when at work, and are then hitched up for work. Usually they show the first symptoms, which, however, rapidly increase in severity, after they have been driven only one or two miles. It is, therefore, advisable to give such horses, which are used to steady work, but for one reason or another have to be idle for several days, some voluntary exercise, instead of keeping them standing in the stable, and also give them less food during such a time. Although the disease very likely is caused by bacteria, and therefore infectious, the disturbance in the process of nutrition caused by the enforced idleness, constitutes a very potent predisposing cause, and it is much easier to prevent the latter than to destroy the yet unknown bacteria.

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A NOTCH ON A STICK.

BY WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE.

CHAPTER IX.

LEFT IN CHARGE.

THE month passed all too swiftly. What with study, long, dreamy mornings spent with Elise under the palms, busy with books and with planning, the days seemed to slip by on wings; and one morning Obed went over to say good-by to Elise and her mother.

The guests were all gone, except Robert Roseborough, who was to escort his cousins to their Tennessee home. There was a feeling of the old, half-conquered jealousy in Obed's heart, as he saw the two come down to the wharf together. It was very much as if he had indeed no claim, and that Robert Roseborough was taking her away forever.

The squire was not going. He had decided to remain in Florida until he could secure some one to leave in charge of his place. And indeed, there was little desire upon his part to leave; for verily, his Florida possessions had never been so attractive. The grove was a mass of bloom, a world of sweetness. There was nothing, indeed, to call the old man from the scenes he loved so well in beautiful, restful Florida.

Elise was well and growing stronger every day, so the old uneasiness on her account no longer troubled him.

"I may come later," he said to Mrs. Featherstone, while waiting at the wharf for the steamer coming across the lake. "I may come later, and I may remain here all summer. Take care of Elise; she is a born missionary. Look at her."

Elise, grown strong and tanned by the Florida winds until the once pale face had become a healthful, robust brown, was talking earnestly with Obed, while Julie stood near holding the sun-shade which the young lady declared was unnecessary to her comfort.

"Obed," she was saying to the tall young fellow, in whose honest face grief was struggling with good humor, "I selected a book from my library for you the last thing before leaving the house. Here it is, and I hope it may help you."

Obed made believe to speak lightly, but there were tears in his eyes when he said:

"It's got a pretty outside, Miss Elise, anyhow."

"It has a much prettier inside," laughed Elise. "And, Obed, there is that in it about men who have risen from poor boys; poorer than you, Obed. And if I don't come back soon I'll send you another."

He watched her from the wharf as the steamer moved off, with the sunlight on her hair and one hand waving good-bye, while with the other she held her crutch. As the vessel rounded a point and she disappeared, the big fellow dashed off the tears that were rolling down his boyish, sun-brown cheeks, and turned from the wharf with her last words still sounding in his ears:

"Good-bye, boy, good-bye, Obed. Don't forget to take care of the roses."

Forget? Could he ever forget anything that was dear to her, who, though little more than a child, was the best friend his untrained youth had ever known? It was not probable the roses would suffer, since they were her gift to him, and her instructions had been for him to "take care of them."

He met the squire as he was passing through the grove an hour later. He looked lonely, Obed thought, and he would have liked to comfort him had he dared.

"Martin?"

Obed started, and replied as promptly as surprise would permit:

"Yes, sir; what can I do for you, sir?"

"Why, you can walk through the grove with me," replied the squire. "These trees need thinning; we will examine them together."

That was the beginning of their long friendship. During the slow, uneventful summer, they were constantly together. The old man found the young shoulders willing to relieve him of many a burden; the young feet ready always to do his bidding. He scarcely knew how he could have managed without him. And even when the winter set in again and a new crop was to be gathered and new hands

came, older and more experienced, Obed was still retained, the old man's trusted and ever ready companion.

One evening he called the boy in and offered him his wages.

"The money has been accumulating, Obed," he said, "your mother has made very few demands upon me. You have now one hundred and fifty dollars. What will you do with it?"

"If you please, sir," said Obed, "I should like to buy the place we are on, and use that money as a first payment."

"Why, the place is costing you nothing," replied the squire. "I always furnish a house to my regular help."

"Mother has a fancy to own it, sir," said Obed. "She doesn't like the idea of being a squatter, and it was really as squatters we took possession there, though we did not so intend it."

So the trade was made. The squire was not sorry, since it assured him of Obed's constant assistance.

It was a very happy moment for Obed when he tossed the deed to the place in his mother's lap.

"Oby," she said, looking up from the pan of beans she was "stringing," "what air this?

lias were growing, too, with more and more of the sound of the cedars among their dark leaves.

"It do sound homelike," his mother often said. And she always added: "Ef I could only hear the wind in the cedars on the mount'n just once more afore I air called."

"I do wish she could," said Obed to the tall rose-bush, as he clipped a twig here and there, "I do wish she could, poor mother."

That night he wrote a letter to Elise. It was the first one he had ever written, and he gave it much care and thought.

"Mother," said he, "what day of the month is it?"

"Well, now," replied his mother, "Christmas come a December. Ther' ware a cold snap in January. Feberary, squair's gray mare died. March—I disremember anything happenin' fur March—yes, squair said he'd send over we-uns' provisions fourth o' March. They come a Thursday an' yistiddy ware Thursday."

So he got the day of the month, and the next day's steamer carried out a very odd-looking letter, with an address as original as Uncle Sam's mail carriers had ever stumbled upon. It read—oh, there was no lack of reading on Obed's envelope:

was a large envelope, quite a pretentious-looking letter "for these parts" Obed thought.

"Read it, Oby," she said, when the letter had been placed in her hands. "It air a pow'ful big one, but it's writ' in Silas' hand. I hope ter the land he ain't dead, but I misdoubts such a lookin' docerment ez that air. Read it, Oby; read it, son."

Obed ran his eye along the page, but it was a strange hand and he found reading difficult. He folded the document and opened another, smaller, that was inclosed with it. This was a letter from his Uncle Silas, and Obed read it through before he spoke.

He folded the letter and laid it upon his knee. There was a quiver, a ring of happiness in his voice that refused to be stifled when he said:

"Mother, a coal-bed has been discovered upon your Bon Air land, and Uncle Silas writes that a syndicate of capitalists wish to buy it, both his share and yours. They offer you ten thousand dollars each. There is the deed for your signature."

She looked at him a moment in a dazed, helpless way. The surprise had been almost too much for her. Then slowly the tears gathered in her faded eyes, and the hand she placed upon his brow shook, as she sobbed brokenly the wish that had lain so long upon her heart.

"Oh, Oby, mayn't I go home ter Tennessee? Mayn't I see the mount'n just once more before I die?"

He bent his head and left a kiss upon the tear-wet cheek.

"That's just what you shall do," he said, "you and the kids, too. The squire is going next week; he shall take you along. He has made me his agent and I am to move up into his house awhile. So you see it suits all around. Call the kids and let them share the good news."

The next week he saw his mother stand with the two little boys on the deck of the steamer, where Elise had stood almost two years before, to wave good-bye. Again the tears sprang to his eyes, as he thought how many dear ones had sailed away from him; how few had ever come back. His dream recurred to him, waking. Again he seemed to see all that he loved drifting from him into the noiseless waters of Dead river.

He turned from the lake and went back to the empty house—the deserted grove. But Obed was not one to yield to melancholy. The soul that has grappled with adversity and felt the sacred fires of aspiration in its depths, is not one to succumb to the petty pricks of loneliness, nor even to the heavier touches of despair. He smiled, while he dashed off a tear, saying lightly:

"Well, I am boss of this bough, at any rate."

The next moment he had sought refuge in his old habit of singing, though there was nobody to laugh at his foolish old songs now. Only the birds in the jasmine bushes stopped their chatter to listen to the familiar voice—familiar to the place if not to the birds—singing away as if the heart of the singer might have been as light as their own:

Screech-owl settin' in a sycamore tree;
Oo-hoo!

I winked at him and he winked at me;
Oo-hoo!
Tware the quarest sight that ever you see;
Oo-hoo! Hoo-hoo!

Owl? Owl?
You air the most surrigeous fowl;
Oo-hoo! Hoo-hoo!

It was three years before he ever saw the squire again.

CHAPTER X.
WELL DONE.

It was an early morning in December that a young man sat before the door of a neat, little vine-covered cottage, reading. A tall, slender young man with strong, clear-cut features and a shock of reddish, golden hair that clung about his neck and temples in short, graceful waves gave a kind of girlish beauty to the well-shaped head.

Both sadness and good humor were distinctly marked upon the face bent over the book that lay upon his knees.

Struggle? Only the old women who loved him, and the dear friend who had been the first to encourage him, knew how valiantly poor Obed had given battle to adversity. He had possessed so little of natural endowment, the fight had been peculiarly pathetic, doubly hard.

There were lines about the mouth, the inevitable marks of the conflict with adversity, and the voice that had been wont to ring with



A SHIP CROSSED THE SEA, BEARING A GOLDEN-HAIRED BRIDE.

What does the document say? My eyes air failin' some fur readin'. What does hit say, Oby?"

He read it to her slowly, haltingly, but proudly. And when he had finished and saw the proud, pleased look that came into her eyes, he felt more than repaid for all the long, hard days he had given to the packing-house.

"You-uns air mighty good," she said tenderly, "mighty good ter me an' the boys. An' they air growing, too, the twins air. They'll be big enough ter help you el'ar out the swam-mock 'ginst it's all paid fur. Or mebbe weuns'll sell the Tennessee land by that time and raise money enough ter hire help."

"Don't you believe it, mother," said Obed. "Mountain land is no good, no good."

"Why, Oby!" cried the mother. "You-uns were born ther', you an' the twins."

"So I have heard," said Obed, as he hurried away to tend to his flowers.

"Take care of the roses." How he wished Elise could see them now. She hadn't "come back with the snow," as she promised, and the roses were climbing all about the doors and windows. He had no idea how many summers would find blossoms on the bush before she would see them. The magn-

"This letter is for Miss Elise Featherstone, in care of her ma, at Chattanooga, in the state of Tennessee, and top o' the mountain. No more at present,

Yours truly,
Oby.
Remember me when this you see."

Yet the letter found her, and provoked a laugh as hearty as the queer old songs used to do. But when the reply came, so neat, and trim, and precise, Obed determined that he would not write again until he could "get up a letter right," meaning that he would take her for a model and learn to write like her.

She was not coming back yet. She was well and strong and was at school, "making up the lost time."

After receiving this letter Obed worked with renewed energy. He was doubly anxious to get his own grove cleared, but he could not afford to leave the squire.

"Ef we could just sell the land!"

It was his mother's dream, sleeping or awake; although her brother had almost ceased to mention it in his letters, as if it were no longer to be considered.

One morning when Obed went down to the steamer for the squire's mail, which the captain brought over every day from the post-office on the other side of the lake, he received a letter for his mother in the squire's care. It

steutonian sharpness, through the orange groves at morning, noon and at evening, had been tamed to gentlest cadences, growing sweet and tender and musical. So is the voice wont to reflect the heart and its changes. In the eyes, full of a calm, sweet truth, traces of the old humor still lingered; sparks that flashed forth now and then, a kind of birth-mark by which mother nature would identify this tall young gentleman with his lofty aspirations, with the old Obed who chased rabbits through the orange groves, or doctored a sore-back mule, when the day's work was done.

The new cottage occupied the site of the old cabin, fronting the lake through an avenue of magnolia trees. Roses and jasmine clambered over the long galleries and peeped in at every window. Birds sang in tree and bush, a jubilant song of thanksgiving for the summer that lingers the year around. Honey-bees droned in the heart of the roses.

From within the cottage came the sound of singing; a woman's voice, cracked and crazy and old, but withal full of a strong, sweet faith that blent to perfect harmony with the quiet scene, and was very good to hear. The song ceased after awhile and the owner came to the door.

"Yer breakfast's ready, son," she said. "Come right in whil'st the eggs air hot. The children druv off before sun-up, so's they could git a start of the packers. They he plumb carried away with bein' let ter baul oranges, the twins' be. I hev fixed a dish of 'em fur yer breakfast, son. But Lor! ef I didn't miss 'em whil'st I ware over in Tennessee."

Obed laughed as he followed her to the breakfast-table, which had been set on a little back porch where a gauze wire had been drawn to shut out mosquitoes and other Florida pests.

"Those boys are working like soldiers since we have our own grove," said Obed. "I am glad they had their chance at school before the shipping season began."

"Yes, that little school air mighty handy," said his mother, "an' so air the new post-office and the church over ter the village. We-uns air gittin' of a town right along. Air yer truly lookiu' fur Squair Roseborer ter-day, Oby?"

"Yes, mother, and I must run over and open up the house before the steamer gets in. He has failed us three times, but he will be here this time. He says in his letter that his affairs have been conducted so well that he has not been needed in Florida until now that I have determined upon 'setting up for myself.' From which I infer that I have given satisfaction," said Obed.

"I reckin!" was the meaning rejoinder. "I went over yestiddy an' cleaned up the house, Oby; all you're ter do air ter open the windows. Will the squair fetch his daughter?"

"Yes," said Obed. "They are coming now to 'make it home,' he says. I suppose they will all be here."

"Oby," she looked up as he pushed his chair back and rose to go, "air the books all balanced?"

Obed laughed, as he crammed his hat down on his head after the old, boyish way.

"To the very last penny," he said. "You just be easy, mother, and come up to the house in time to welcome our friends home again."

"Why, son, s'posin' they fetch a lot o' their fine friends home with 'em?" she said hesitatingly, though he saw the longing in her eyes to be there and to hear a word from the beloved old hill, which to her staunch and loyal heart, would always be home.

"They cannot bring anybody too fine or too good for the companionship of my dear, old mother," said Obed, and the tall young fellow bent his head to kiss the withered cheek down which a tear was slowly stealing.

Happy tears, happy tears, precious drops to the boy whose earnest endeavor had helped to bring about this quiet content and welcome prosperity.

"You air a good son, Oby, a mighty good son. I can tell Squair Roseborer that with my compliments."

The next morning she saw him crossing the stile through the grove to the house on the bluff, in the old familiar stride, which still was Obed's and that refused to be outgrown. For he often told himself that the only one of Elise's commands that had not been obeyed, was the injunction to "learn to walk."

The village had changed greatly, for the better. There was a public wharf further down, and a post-office, a church, a school of three years' standing and half a dozen stores. They had learned to call it "the village" twelve months back. Other families had moved in, and land was dearer than when Obed purchased his hammock. He had worked well these three years; what with the squire's place and his own, and trying to get as much time in school as possible, he had found but little time that might be called "spare." But it was done now, well done he hoped, though that was for Squire Roseborough to say.

"And Squire Roseborough will soon be here for that say," said Obed, as he threw open doors and windows to the sunlight and the gentle breeze from the lake. The curtains waved a welcome from the windows in their old, familiar way, as he had been wont to remember them the day of the family's coming that first morning, six years before, when he had hidden behind a citron-tree to watch the landing of the steamer. Even the little hammocks were swinging, one on the veranda, the other under the palm trees. He had hung them himself, since Julie was not there to see

to it. He even gathered a bouquet of the same old rosebuds for the little vase on the mantel. And when all was ready, he seated himself at the squire's desk, opened it, and removed several large ledgers from one of the drawers. They contained the record of his three years' service.

He smiled as he ran his eye over the carefully kept pages. He was thinking of the day he had chased the rabbit through the grove, and had been dismissed as "a notch on a stick."

"He was right, too; perfectly right," he mused, and turned the pages slowly and—without knowing it—to the tune of "Ole Molly Hart."

Then his mother came over; and leaving her in charge he ran down to the wharf when he heard the steamer whistle as she rounded the point. Yes, there they were, standing on deck ready to greet him. The squire, his daughter upon his arm, and a host of servants, but there was no sunshiny head, no little form leaning upon a crutch; the disappointment came too sudden for words. Elise was not there.

The squire was grayer; his voice had grown gentler with the years, otherwise he was the same. Obed extended his hand as the old man's foot touched the wharf.

"Squire Roseborough," he said, "permit me to welcome you to your Florida home." He lifted his hat, remembering even at the moment, that he had that much for which to thank Robert Roseborough, from whom he had learned much of courtesy. "Permit me to extend a welcome both to you and your daughter."

The squire looked sharply into the honest, handsome face before he said, much in the same tone as that in which he had addressed the squatters of six years before:

"And who, sir, may I inquire, are you?"

"Martin, sir; Obed Martin, your agent and man in charge."

The squire's face was a study. He grasped the extended hand and shook it heartily.

"You don't tell me," said he, "that you are the yellow-headed stripling who used to chase old Molly-Cottontail across my plantation?"

"The same," said Obed, with a twinkle of his old humor, "the very same. And glad to welcome you back home, since you write me it is really to be homé."

"We hope so, yes, my daughter and I. Have you spoken to Mr. Martin, my dear?" turning to Mrs. Featherstone, following with Julie just behind him.

"I am only waiting for an opportunity, father," said the lady, offering her hand. "I am truly pleased to see you again, Obed, for to me you will always be Obed, the friend of my darling, Elise."

The quick tears sprang to the mother's eyes, and were reflected in the squire's. Julie put her handkerchief to her face and fell back with the other servants, busy with the baggage.

Obed was alarmed. What had happened to Elise? Where was she? Dead? For one instant he felt his heart stop beating. But there was a crimson rosebud in Mrs. Featherstone's bonnet. Indeed, there was no other sign of sorrow visible than the quickly checked tears that had come at the mention of Elise's name.

"I was about to ask about her," said Obed, in a low voice. "I had truly expected her, and I have no words in which to express my disappointment in the absence of the dear little girl who used to be my friend."

The squire was silent.

"The little girl who was your friend," said Mrs. Featherstone, "is a woman now, but still your friend. She is to-day on the ocean, bound as a missionary to Japan."

He would not see her, then. After so many years of waiting, he could not thank her personally for all her interest and help. To Japan! Her work with him was finished. She would never see the roses she had bidden him tend, because they were refining. A missionary! She was born one. The little twisted foot that could not run along the flowery fields of life, had been chosen to carry the glad tidings of joy into the mountains of despair.

She had sent a letter, some simple gifts and many messages of kindly interest and earnest solicitation, by her mother.

Obed left them at the door, promising to return later. As he passed out he saw Mrs. Featherstone glance at the little hammock swinging among the jasmine vines and put her handkerchief to her eyes.

He went off alone to read the letter she had sent. It was such a childish, earnest little letter. He had forgotten that she was no longer a child, when he hung her old hammocks in their places.

She had always wished to be a missionary, she wrote him, ever since she had taught a little "cracker boy," away down in Florida. It was then she had discovered her calling. There were words of help and of hope; a message for his mother, and at the last an admonition that had for him a sacred, solemn meaning:

"If I have helped you, as you say, pass it on to the next."

That last command of hers served to shape his destiny. Alas! Words are so little and so much. "Pass it on." He would hesitate no longer; he would obey the voice of the friend who had never yet counseled him unwisely.

The stars were shining when he returned to the squire's, by way of the lake shore road. He stopped a moment to watch the quiet water, thinking awhile of another lake,

beloved of him whose gospel she had gone to carry to a foreign land.

"Elise? Oh, Elise?"

With the lonely cry of desolation, the heart sent up a prayer for the wanderer far away upon the deep, rocked to sleep by the sobbing of the waves.

When half an hour later he entered the house to find the squire waiting in his study with Mrs. Featherstone to receive him. Obed formed a resolution, registered a vow, that some day he would cross the ocean to bring Elise back, or else to die himself under the skies that sheltered her.

The squire rose and again shook his hand, holding it a moment in his, his other hand resting upon the younger man's shoulder.

"We have both been complaining" he declared, "because of your neglect. Can you not imagine how two lonely old people, such as my daughter and I, need young and sprightly company about the place? Now, sir, do you sit here close by the table, where the lamp's light will bring out every trick of your face, and let us see what manner of job these years have put upon you. Come, sir."

"First," laughed Obed, "let us run over the books, sir. I left the key in the desk and remained away all day, in order to allow you leisure in which to look into my stewardship."

"And I have not once glanced at a paper," said the squire. "Let the books be, Martin. They are all square, I know, as your reports have been."

"I have not reported the last year's business, sir," said Obed, "but it is all here, and if you will go over the pages with me it will take but a moment."

He drew his chair to the desk, opened the books, and together with the squire ran over the various items and figures entered there. The expenditures, the receipts, the losses, the gains—everything had been entered. Not in the exact method of the trained bookkeeper, to be sure, but as carefully and as clearly as any bookkeeper could have made them.

"In one grove we picked the fruit," he said, "and sold it from one fifty to three dollars a box. Then hands became scarce and I sold the lower grove fruit on the tree at one dollar a box. This proved less laborious, but the profit was not so great, so that when we came to the big grove, your first venture, I went to packing again. I put the little boys, my brothers, to work last year. They are pretty fair packers, now. This season, I have put them to hauling in my own grove. Ben'e packed sixty-nine boxes one day, sir, and Jack was but four boxes behind him. He would have packed as many only he stopped work to chase a rabbit."

The squire burst into a laugh.

"Glad he did," said he, "glad he did." But what did you do about it, eh, Martin?"

"I sent him home, sir," said Obed, "where he found a sensible old mother, who packed him back to me with a promise of better behavior."

"Good!" said the squire, "very good! Sensible old mothers are rarely good things, mind you."

"Here is an item," said Obed, running his finger down the page, "that I came near overlooking, 'One mule, eighty dollars.' The old yellow mule received an injury beyond my surgical skill. She ventured too near the lake, an alligator hit her and I had to shoot her, and then buy another. I assure you, sir, it was very much like shooting a friend."

"Shouldn't wonder," laughed the squire, "the yellow mule was one of your first friends here. And now, sir, you know what I think of your management here. I am glad you have bought a place near me, for that tells me I shall keep you for a neighbor."

Obed closed the books, pushed them back upon the desk and said:

"I think not, sir. My brothers are now able to work, and my mother is a fine manager. The boys are energetic, faithful and obedient. I have always had a taste for surgery, sir, and have lately decided to go away for a few years' study of medicine."

"Medicine!" thundered the squire, "and pray, sir, where did you get that idea?"

"I think, sir, first from doctoring an old yellow mule," laughed Obed. "At least those operations were rather successful. Then, sir, and you, madam, if you please, there was a little girl who corrected my blunders, grieved over my faults, encouraged and smiled upon my efforts. And who, now grown to a noble womanhood, still directs and encourages my efforts by bidding me 'pass on' to the next that which she has done for me. I can best obey her command in that field toward which, by nature, I feel myself best suited. And sir, and madam, I am going to tell you frankly that I intend, with God's help, to cross the ocean and cheat the heathen of their missionary."

Mrs. Featherstone laughed, despite her tears.

"I fear," she said, "you have asked God's help in a very selfish cause. Yet, selfish or otherwise, I shall not feel sorry to see my darling safe at home with those who love her."

"Well, sir," declared the squire, "I call that rather a pretty piece of coolness—asking the Lord to take his workmen out of his field for your pleasure, sir."

"Only to labor in another, sir," said Obed, "and after all, I think the home field offers a plentiful harvest. And now I must leave you; my mother will be waiting, and alone, for the boys will not be out of school for ten days yet."

"You will come to breakfast," said Mrs. Featherstone, when Obed rose to go, "we

will surely expect you promptly at eight o'clock."

"I will be here," said Obed, "though I promised the boys to go over with my mother to see 'em."

He stopped, drew himself together, and in a tone that all remembered, said sternly:

"Say them, boy, not 'em."

The squire and his daughter laughed so heartily that Obed felt as if the old days had come back, with their music and fun and chattering.

"I heard Elise laughing about her old manner of correcting your English not half an hour before we parted," said Mrs. Featherstone. "And I almost forgot to tell you she said you were to keep the roses trained."

"You must come over and see them," said Obed. "They are my chief care, and one of my keenest pleasures. I had a job of it trying to prop and protect the vines, when we tore the old house away to make room for the new. And indeed, in selecting the site for our house I had great respect for my roses, placing the cottage in a convenient place to receive the vines without running the risk of transplanting."

The squire sat before his desk a long time after his agent had gone home. Mrs. Featherstone sat opposite, busily stitching, while her thoughts followed the track of a lonely ship bound for distant Japan. For an hour neither spoke; yet both were content and well pleased with life and its promises. Suddenly the old man lifted his head, a smile upon his lips, and said:

"I did not believe there was anything in him. He seemed to me the most stupid, most trifling, inattentive, unstable excuse for a boy that I ever saw. And what a very good job he has made of himself. It is wonderful! wonderful!"

Mrs. Featherstone arose, crossed over to the old man's side and stood a moment behind his chair, her arms resting lightly around his neck. After a moment of silence, she dropped her face and left a kiss upon the silver waves of hair—a kiss and a tear.

"And father, dear," she said, "he is Elise's 'job,' you know. My darling always believed in your 'notch on a stick.'"

Five years slipped by, five busy and eventful years to Obed; years full of change, of longing and of endeavor. He had spent but little time in his Florida home during those years. Once he had been called home by the death of his mother, and had remained for six months while his brothers arranged their affairs and adjusted themselves to their new mode of life.

They preferred to remain in their Florida home. Their mother had selected Squire Roseborough to act as guardian for them, and Obed felt that she could have made no better selection. Mrs. Featherstone's gentle influence would be of great value to the boys, he knew, and so he returned to his studies in the East, confident and full of hope.

For his mother he grieved sorely, for they had been the best of friends always. She had shared his sorrows, appreciated his struggles, loved and believed in him always. He had reached her bedside only in time to receive her last farewell and commendation:

"You've been a mighty good son, Oby; a mighty good son ter yer ole mammy. Yer wan't never in no ways ashamed o' yer ole mammy. She ain't forgot that, Oby. An' yer must be good ter the twins, Oby; they air little boys an' can't know their own miuds as yet. You-uns wan't furgit the twins."

And poor Obed, his hand in hers, bad promised that he would never forget or neglect the "little boys," who stood by vainly struggling against their tears as boys of sixteen are wont to struggle against those feelings which the older man has learned are neither unmanly nor unbecoming.

Obed's promise had given the mother full content; for at the moment when the dread messenger waited to set the final seal upon her lips, she turned to her oldest son with a smile:

"You-uns ware a good son, allus a good son ter me."

A commendation well worth the journey south that he had made in order to receive it.

The squire had arranged for the boys to enter school, and had secured an agent to look after their groves, together with his own. The agent occupied the cottage, where each vacation the twins found a home.

Obed, in his eastern home, received letters constantly, both from the squire and his brothers, telling him of progress and prosperity. One morning he received a letter from Mrs. Featherstone herself, telling him of her marriage to a wealthy neighbor, whose plantation adjoined that of Squire Roseborough's. The same day he received a letter from Japan. The letter said, "Dear Obed, if anything were needed, more than your love, to induce me to come back, it would be the thought of my dear old grandfather alone and lonely, perhaps, in his last years."

In his hand he holds the crutch, as dear to him as any costly jewel in fairest lady's dower could be. As he takes it from her hand she hears him whisper proudly:

"You are to lean on me, love."

And so the tide goes out and bears them on to sea, and to the waiting ones who watch and hunger for their coming and send up many a prayer for that full-freighted ship upon the sea.

"The vessel will get into port to-morrow," the squire had told his daughter who had come over, according to her daily habit, to sit with him, and to chat awhile about the two so dear to both of them. "I have just read it in the *Herald*," said the old man, laying aside his glasses. "She is expected, so the paper says, next Thursday. The paper is three days old, and next Thursday is to-morrow."

"That will bring them to us on Tuesday, as Elise writes they will remain two days in New York. Robert and his family will get here to-morrow. I have ordered them put in my old rooms, father. And Julie has insisted upon Elise occupying her own old rooms opening out upon the palms. I have not opposed her in it, since it seems to me rather a happy idea, and I feel sure Elise will like it."

"Are the rooms all ready?" said the squire. "I have been to the door and looked in at least twenty times, but for the life of me I can see nothing but a patch of sunshine on the wall, which, instantly takes the form of a golden head and begs to come down and get into my arms. The old arms have ached for the pretty head."

"It will soon be in them," said the mother, her eyes filled with tears, but a thrill of gladness in her voice. "The golden head will soon find its own, old resting-place. As for the rooms, we can safely trust Julie for them. The girl is like some one gone mad with happiness. Reuben tells me she did not leave Elise's room until one o'clock this morning, and at six was in there again, looping and unlooping curtains, dusting and arranging furniture. Will Jack and Ben get home in time?"

"I look for them to-morrow," said the squire, "on the boat with Robert's family."

Again the house on the bluff wore its holiday appearance; again were doors and windows thrown wide to sun and breeze; again the fleecy curtains waved a welcome; hammock waited under palm and jasmine. Servants darted here and there, some with arms full of white roses, some with orange blossoms, to make ready for the coming of the little bride.

The family waited, assembled on the front veranda, the first sound of the steamer's whistle. The steamer was late; Squire Roseborough had walked down to the wharf three times, to scan the water for a glimpse of her. Robert, too, had run in to get the squire's marine glass, and had been faithfully searching the water for half an hour. The late breakfast waited; for it was decided the family would breakfast together, upon the arrival of the steamer bearing the two missing members.

Julie, from an upper window, was keeping watch alone. Suddenly the girl sprang to her feet, shaded her face with her hand, and eagerly scanned the land. A faint, far-off line of smoke arose upward and seemed to beckon as it floated away and was lost in the distance. Julie turned and ran down the stairs, calling as she went to the company upon the veranda:

"The steamer! the steamer is coming, Miss Elizabeth."

Instantly all was confusion. The squire was so eager to be the first to greet the wanderers, that he forgot his hat and went to the wharf with the sun heating down upon his bare head, and was wholly unconscious of his uncomfortable oversight until Reuben touched his arm and said:

"Here is your hat, sir; you forgot it."

Robert Roseborough, determined upon giving Elise a surprise, seized his baby daughter, asleep in the nurse's arms, and ran down to the landing to join his wife, who had gone on at the very first information that the steamer was in sight. Two tall, young men, strangely resembling each other, stood near the citron trees waiting to welcome their brother. The servants left their work to add their welcome to that of the master.

The steamer plowed its way across the water. The whistle sounded a gay salute, a very welcome to the old man, who stepped forward to demand of the tall, erect bridegroom:

"Have you brought my little girl back to me, sir?"

But the little bride would answer for herself. There was no doubt in the gladness in the voice that rang out sharply, "Grandfather!" as the old man gathered the heroic little wanderer home to his heart.

Obed felt his best greeting to come from Elise's mother, who lifted her beautiful, happy face to receive his kiss, saying as she did so:

"My son, you are very welcome home," she said. "Your father is waiting to add his greeting to my own."

It was Obed's first meeting with Elise's step-father, though he had no time in which to form opinions, for Elise had already taken possession of him. Nor did she resign him to her mother until Robert Roseborough claimed her attention.

"My cousin," he said, "I am waiting to present my wife and my own, dear little Elise. And cousin, I may as well state to you at the

beginning, that no benighted heathen will rob me of my second Elise."

From behind the citrons Obed saw two forms advance. His heart recalled another day, another homecoming, and an awkward, idle, timid boy, who had watched from that same old covert. There was a very happy ring in his voice when he said, advancing to meet the figures:

"Elise, dear, my brothers are waiting to welcome their sister."

Life slipped back into its old, velvety pace in the Florida home; the days go by on dream-wings; the heaviest burden is the breath of orange blossoms; the roughest wind a gentle, lake breeze.

Obed sits among the jasmines, a gentle presence near. That presence, which has helped to shape and direct his destiny, will follow on, to the close, ever his guide and loving helper.

The old squire falls quietly and with a rare content, into an old age that smiles upon, the while it leans upon, his "notch on a stick."

Many poor and suffering have lived to bless the skill of the physician, whose first patient was a yellow mule.

He and Elise make their home with the squire, in the house upon the bluff, where Jack and Ben are daily visitors, coming up from their bachelor quarters—the cottage Obed had built for their mother. They read and chat with Elise, and plan with Obed against the coming of the husky season in the grove.

For Obed's old dream has been more than realized. The freight that will leave the packing-house next season will bear the name of the new firm, "Martin Brothers and Roseborough."

Sweet peace and gentle content rest upon heart and home. Life moves with reluctant feet, as if it fain would linger among scenes so nearly perfect.

And the old mother, asleep under the murmuring magnolias that still whisper of the Tennessean hills, is not forgotten.

[THE END.]

A COLLEGE FOR THE PEOPLE.

Hundreds of young people never seriously consider the question of securing an education, simply because they suppose it is utterly beyond their reach. Such young persons, as well as their parents, will be interested to know about a new educational movement in what seems to many of us a strange land—Kentucky.

About a year ago, Prof. Wm. G. Frost, of Oberlin, accepted the presidency of Berea college, one hundred and thirty miles south of Cincinnati, in the edge of the Cumberland mountains, and proposed to make of that school a people's college. The institution has romantic situation in the county where Kit Carson was born and where Daniel Boone performed his principal exploits. And it has a thrilling history, being the only school of liberal principles, the only college which admits colored as well as white students, in the state. But it has had the support of Cassius M. Clay and the large number of anti-slavery and Union men who are found in eastern Kentucky. The flag which went up Lookout mountain was carried by Kentucky men, and is now kept a few miles from Berea. Berea village has local prohibition.

President Frost's idea was that most colleges pay too little attention to the self-supporting student and the student who can spend but a brief time at school. The student who comes for a single term has a right to instruction of the best quality. He is also a representative of several improved methods of instruction, which have been received with much favor. He believes that as students must leave home in order to study, they might as well go to a mild climate, and as board is the largest item in a student's expenses, they should go to some place where good board can be furnished cheaply. Three college courses are provided, with normal course, music and business studies, and manual training is to begin the coming term.

LANDS FOR SALE.

BY THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL R. R. CO., AT LOW PRICES AND ON EASY TERMS, IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

The best farm country in the world for either large or small farms, gardens, fruits, orchards, dairying, raising stock or sheep. A greater variety of crops, with a greater profit, can be grown on a less amount of lands in this country than can be raised in any other portion of this State.

Special inducements and facilities offered by the Illinois Central Railroad Company to go and examine these lands. For full description and map, and any information, address or call upon

E. P. SKENE,
Land Commissioner I. C. R. R. Co.,
78 Michigan Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

FROM NEBRASKA.

MAST, CROWELL & KIRKPATRICK:

Gentlemen—For the inclosed amount send 12 Atlases and 1 "Views," with Coupon Receipts. Please send samples of paper to canvass with. I have taken even 66 orders to date, and will send for more spoons and "Views" soon.

Yours,

J. H. BARTLETT.

READING ADVERTISEMENTS.

Twenty years ago a man was held to be an exceedingly daring advertiser if, in the course of a year, he bought \$50,000 worth of space in the journals of his own country alone. The enterprise has so expanded that now a man is not held to be a large advertiser unless he spends every year for this purpose, in the United States only, from \$300,000 to \$600,000.

This great increase of advertising has produced a noticeable change in all papers and magazines. Readers are not slow to discover the enormous increase in advertising matter, but they are not so ready to consider that this has made possible, and indeed has required, much larger and much cheaper periodicals. The readers who complain of the excessive amount of advertisements would hardly care to go back to the old-style, diminutive and high-priced papers. Indeed, much satisfaction is to be gained from the right reading even of the advertisements themselves. At one time for many months Frank R. Stockton was unable to use his eyes, and his friends had to read to him. When at last he was able to read for himself, the members of his household were exceedingly curious to know what sort of reading he would call for first. A great shout of laughter arose when the novelist in all seriousness called eagerly for advertisements. The fact was, that during all those months of darkness, his friends had read to him everything else, but the advertisements, and in regard to these he had an intellectual famine. It may well be imagined that a humorist can find food in advertisements. No species of literature so persistently and frankly as these makes its appeal to human nature, and in none, therefore, is human nature so clearly and frankly disclosed. Much information, moreover, is to be gained from them, and in the case of the more extravagant of them we learn what to avoid, while the more worthy ones widen our knowledge of good and useful things. We should read advertisements, not as the credulous loafer, but as a philosopher, and as a student of human nature and human achievements. Perused after this fashion, this glaring literature will prove not the least profitable matter in our journals.—*Golden Rule*.

TO CATARRH SUFFERERS.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a medicine which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending his name and address to Prof. Lawrence, 88 Warren Street, New York, will receive the incans of cure free and post-paid.

MEDICAL TREE BARKS.

I will furnish Balsam, Mountain Ash, White Oak, Cherry, Tamarack, Prickly Ash, Spruce, Hemlock, Moose wood, Alder, Poplar, and Butternut barks; also, Squaw vine, Wintergreen leaves, and Balsam and Pine tree needle pillows, very beneficial to sickly persons in keeping in sleeping apartments. Price 75¢ for barks, and \$1 for pillows. FRANCIS BIRON, Grand Rapids, Wis.

FREE

COMET FOUNTAIN PEN

As a sample of our 1000 BARGAINS we will send FREE this Hard Rubber Fountain Pen, Warranted a perfect writer, & immense ill. Bargain Catalogue, for 10¢, to cover postage.

ROBT. H. INGERSOLL & BRO., 65 Cortland St., N. Y. City.

IVORY



NO IRRITATION.

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE CO., CINTI.

A Race With the Sun,

By Carter H. Harrison. Around the World in Sixteen Months. This bewitchingly charming story, told in the simplest and most vivid descriptive manner, is so intensely interesting and wonderfully instructive, that it is difficult to conceive of a more delightful volume. It is the best book of travels ever written. 32 illustrations; 569 large pages. Cloth, \$2.00.

Fay Banning, a charmingly interesting novel of over 300 closely printed pages by a new claimant to literary fame. Second edition now on the press. Will only cost you 50 cents in stamps to read it for yourself in paper. Sent by mail, postage paid. Cloth \$1.00.

"Uncle Dick" Wooton, the Daniel Boone of the Rocky Mountains. Elegantly illustrated. Cloth, \$2.00.

Kirkland's Chicago Massacre. Paper, 50 cents; cloth, \$1.00. Story of Chicago, 500 pages, 900 illustrations. Cloth, \$3.50. Kirkland's Captain of Company K. Cloth, \$1.00.

DIBBLE PUBLISHING CO.,

334 Dearborn Street, Chicago.

AGENTS WANTED.

OUR SYSTEM THE BEST

We want reliable women in every town to sell \$6.00 worth of Teas, Spices and Baking Powder for us, and get a set of Silver Knives and Forks free, or \$12.00 worth, and get a set of China Dishes free. No money required until you deliver goods and get premium. W. W. THOMAS, 48-50 E. 3d St., Cincinnati, O.

Agents for this paper make money, and lots of it. Write for terms.

It will pay you to buy a Saw with "DISSTON" on it. It will hold the set longer, and do more work without filing than other saws, thereby saving in labor and cost of files. They are made of the best quality crucible cast steel, and are

FULLY WARRANTED.
For Sale by all Dealers.

HENRY DISSTON & SONS, Philadelphia, Pa.

DISSTON'S



Send for Pamphlet, "The Saw," mailed free.

WE SELL DIRECT TO FAMILIES.

THE OLD RELIABLE MARCHAL & SMITH PIANO CO.

Estab. 1859.]

NEW YORK.

[Incor. 1877.

PIANOS || ORGANS

\$150 to \$1500.

\$25 to \$500.

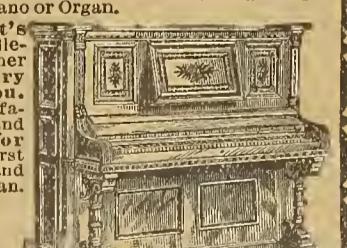
We send a Beautiful Catalogue Free to all who wish to buy. It gives full description of many elegant pianos and organs and tells you how you can in the quiet of your home select an instrument, make your own terms, and have it sent to you for trial with certainty of getting a handsome First-Class Piano or Organ.

You Pay no Agent's Commission, nor middleman's profit, nor any other needless expense. Every Benefit is Given to You. You get an instrument famous for sweetness and power. Guaranteed for Ten Years, and sent free to you for trial. We were the first to sell on these terms, beginning thirty-four years ago, and we can save you from \$50 to \$200 if you want a piano or an organ. Send for our Catalogue.

THE MARCHAL & SMITH PIANO CO.,

235 EAST 21ST STREET,

NEW YORK.



THIS PAPER ONE YEAR FREE.

Any one sending one yearly subscriber to this journal at the regular price, 50 cents, will receive this paper one year Free as a reward for securing the subscriber.

The subscriber may obtain any article offered by the publishers of this journal by paying the "Price, including one year's subscription." For example: The *Atlas*, and this paper one year, is 75 cents, and the subscriber you secure can have the *Atlas* and this paper one year by paying 75 cents; and you can have this paper one year free as a reward for sending the subscription, but you are not entitled to any other premium.

Publishers FARM AND FIRESIDE, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, O.

Our Household.

THAT CALF.

Do you see that calf out yonder?
That one haltered to a tree?
He's as mild a lookin' critter
As you're ever like to see.

An' he looked that way this mornin'
When I led him down the slope,
Like he'd never heard o' buckin'
Or a tuggin' on the rope.

An' I met our city boarder,
Just this side that pile o' stones,
An', says she, "The little darlin'!
Let me lead him, Mr. Jones?"

Now I reckon in all conscience
That I ought to answer, No;
But I couldn't help a thinkin'
That I'd like to see the show.

So she led the "little darlin'."
An' I hadn't long to wait,
Before I seen her hurried
Far beyond her usual gait.

For the calf he went and trampled
On an old tomato-can,
An' I hadn't time to stop him,
When he humped himself, and ran.

Down across the apple orchard
Like a whirlwind goin' past,
A jumpin' an' a rarin';
An' the gal a holdin' fast.

The next thing she was stranded
Up agin an apple-tree,
Where I found her sittin' speechless,
An' the calf a runnin' free.

I couldn't help a smilin'
As I helped her up the hill,
An' I'd be a corpse this minute,
If a woman's look could kill.

An' I venture on predictin',
Though she hain't no broken bone,
That she henceforth let's the "darlin'"
Most religiously alone.

—FANNY PEIRCE.

HOME TOPICS.

PANNED OYSTERS.—One of the most delicious ways of cooking oysters is to pan them in what a renowned oyster cooker calls the "Philadelphia style." He gave me the directions for this dish. Pick the oysters, one by one, from the liquor and strain the liquor; then put both in a saucepan over the fire until the oysters plump up. Pour them out into a hot dish with a cover and put them where they will keep warm; then into the pan from which you have removed them, put a tablespoonful of butter, half a pint of milk, a saltspoonful of salt and the same of pepper and mace. These are proportions for half a pint of oysters. When the milk boils, put the oysters in and let them cook two minutes. Put two tablespoonfuls of sherry into the dish in which the oysters are to be served, turn in the oysters and they are ready to serve. This is the recipe as given to me, but as I never use sherry or anything similar in cooking, I always omit that from this recipe and pour the oysters over two slices of toast. This same oyster cooker says that a mistake which is frequently made by professional cooks as well as amateurs, is to cook the oysters for a stew in milk. The oysters should be cooked in their own liquor, and then the milk, previously heated, be added just before serving.



No. 1.

CARE OF CLOTHES.—While one should never be wasteful or extravagant, during the present hard times, it is fitting to be especially careful and economical. Everyone likes to appear well dressed, and by a little management this can be accomplished without great expense. It is quite an art to keep clothes looking fresh and nice for a long time, and only care can accomplish this result. When a dress is taken off it should be aired and brushed before it is put away. While the dress is airing, it should be hung so that it will not wrinkle. The waist may be hung over the back of a chair. Every part of the dress

should be carefully brushed, every ruffle and facing or wherever dust may lodge. A whisk-broom is not a good brush for silk. The waist of a dress is better kept in a large box or drawer than hung in a closet. Have a muslin or calico bag to slip over the skirt; pin the band of the skirt to the bag with two safety-pins, tie up the top of the bag and hang it in the closet. It is a good plan to stuff the sleeves and top part of the waist with tissue-paper, and shields should be taken out and washed in water with a little ammonia, after the dress has been worn two or three times. Hats and outside wraps should also be carefully brushed before being put away. Never throw hats and cloaks down on a chair, sofa or bed carelessly, or they will very soon lose their freshness. It is a good plan to have two waists to a dress—one of them made perfectly plain and with medium sleeves, to wear under a cloak to church and on the street; the other to be trimmed and made more elaborate for other occasions. In this way a dress can often be made to do double duty. Gloves should never be put on or taken off hastily. When they are taken off, they should be straightened out carefully and laid in a box. Shoes should be wiped with a flannel cloth before being put away; boots should be buttoned, and all shoes will keep their shape better if they are stuffed with soft paper.

MENDING.—The woman who cannot mend neatly has certainly had a very important part of her education neglected. A few stitches taken in time—the button at once replaced, the buttonhole repaired at the first symptom of breaking, the little



No. 3.

rip sewed up, the worn braid replaced by a new one—these will keep a garment presentable and often double its period of usefulness. When a skirt wears out at the bottom, cut it off, hem it up again and put a yoke at the top to lengthen it. If the heels and toes of stockings are run with darning cotton, they will wear much longer. A worn place or a tear in woolen garments can be neatly darned with ravelings of the goods, then pressed on the wrong side, and the darn will hardly be noticeable. When little jackets and trousers are past darning on elbow or knee, the side seams should be ripped and a piece set in clear across; then if the cross seams are pressed, they will look very well. If the garment is faded, wash the piece of new and fade that some before using it for a patch. In the care and repairing of clothing, it is the attention to little things that extends the time of service and keeps garments looking well to the last.

MAIDA MCL.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss.
LUCAS COUNTY. }
FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior
partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business
in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid,
and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUN-
DRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH
CURE that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH
CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence,
this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

SEAL. A. W. GLEASON,
Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

© Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Do you want Work, at Good Pay?
Agents for this paper are given a Big
Cash Commission. If you want to
make money, write to-day for our
special terms.

TABLE AND STANDS.

We cannot all have new furniture when we want it. Many of us are afflicted with some very old, indeed, which we must put up with. But it need not stay in a repulsive manner to afflict us in every way.

With this are given three illustrations by which, with a little ingenuity and help from the carpenter, a plain piece can be made very artistic and pretty.

In No. 1 a new top was added with some little turned knobs as ornaments. The top was of oak, smoothly sandpapered and given a coat of varnish. If pine is used, a coat of white enamel paint, over a coat of ordinary white paint, would make it very nice.

In No. 2 a piece of tile oil-cloth is fitted into a frame for the back, a like piece for the top of the stand, being fastened on with molding. The wood part being left the original walnut and all nicely varnished.

No. 3 has the addition of a back piece with compartments, and a small glass. These, as dressing-tables in a young girl's room, are far more appropriate than a more expensive piece would be, and if you have only a little to invest in fixing up a room, the money can be put into other helps to make it all new and clean.

There is nothing more satisfactory in bedrooms as matting which, with care, lasts for years, is so much more easily kept clean and with the addition of rugs is far more picturesque than carpet. If a bedroom is small, it is next to impossible to sweep it thoroughly, especially under the bed; whereas matting can be thoroughly cleaned with a cloth or a broom.

Try some of these models, and I am sure you will like them. L. L. C.

STEAM FROM THE TEA-KETTLE.

Years ago there stood in our kitchen, a pretty little pine table, and a veritable little despot it was, too. It held complete possession of the culinary department. Never might we expect quarter from the little pine table. It was inexorable in exacting homage, and we paid tribute with unremitting zeal and unflagging devotion to its snowy countenance.

Regularly, every Saturday, my mother scoured it with sand, soap and scrubbing-brush or rushes. For fully thirty years, had that little pine table been scoured and scrubbed, until it was as white and smooth as wood could by any possibility be made. One happy day, a blessed thought came to my mother. She rebelled against the tyranny of the scrub-broom and she said that she would have that table covered with zinc.

So the zinc was purchased and brought home and tacked on securely, and the pine table no longer holds the scepter in our kitchen. It is ignominiously overcome and ingloriously dragged at the feet of its conqueror. Humiliated now beyond the pale of endurance almost, the proud, little pine table bears all manner of burdens, without damaging itself or engendering labor. Upon its cold and impassive face, hot kettles, lard-crocks, butter-bowls, soap-dishes, anything and everything, may now be placed with perfect impunity. Dish-water may be spilled all over it, and it doesn't look as though afflicted with the leprosy; no backs are broken, or fingers worn to the bone by endless scouring.

Just experiment and see how nice it really is, but be careful not to let salt lay on it, for salt eats zinc as rust does iron.

And do you, my good, mistaken sister, do you scour the kettles and pots and skillets, the tea-kettle and frying-pans and spiders, the tin lids and pans and the stove-hearth? Do you really add this burden to all your other cares and worries and labors? Do you make your kitchen and its work a fetich? Yes, you do, just hundreds of you. Don't do so any more, I beg of you. Stop to-day. Just yesterday, I stepped into a neighboring kitchen. The ironware and tinware glistened like silver—the result of years and years of scouring and polishing.

"Mrs. A., although it is none of my affairs at all," I said, as I surveyed the "glistening wonder," "may I ask how much time you spent upon these skillets?"

"Oh! I don't know," she replied, "about three minutes, I guess."

"And you use them every meal?" I queried.

"Yes, about as near as I can make out,"

she said. "I use something—a kettle or a pot—and the tea-kettle, I'd just as soon think of doing without coffee as of not scouring it."

I said nothing, but made a little mental calculation. Three minutes each meal for three hundred and sixty-five days, for twenty years, makes eighty-five days and fifteen hours spent in scouring skillets, and the dear soul takes as much pleasure in it as the artist in his beautiful canvas,



No. 2.

the sculptor in his faultless marbles, or the musician in his eternal harmonies.

Now, consider the supreme folly, the waste of time, temper and muscle. Actually the good woman's nerves are threadbare. Like her poor overworked hands they catch against everything she touches, and what wonder? She never has time to read a book, or write a letter or lie down for a nap, or a little rest spell. There is always something to be done.

Don't scour the suppleness out of your fingers, the roses from your cheeks, the elasticity from your footsteps, the brightness from your eye, the pain into your back, the crow's-feet around your eyes, and the sharp words into your tongue. Don't, and again I say, don't.

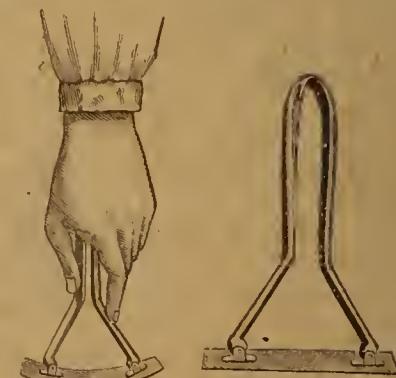
CARRIE O'NEAL.

PROTECTING SILVER FROM TARNISHING.

It is worth while knowing that silver articles put away for a time can be protected from tarnishing. According to the *Decorator and Furnisher*, this can be done by applying to them, with a soft brush, collodion mixed with alcohol. If silver plate is already tarnished, its full brilliancy may be restored by washing it in liquid potassia, next rinsing it in warm water and then immersing it in a liquid composed of one part alum, one part of common salt and two parts of saltpeter in three parts of water. The plate has now to be washed in lukewarm water, then wiped with chamois leather and finally packed in sawdust to dry.

POT-CLEANER.

Very often in some kinds of cooking where the round-bottomed iron pot is still used, some of the material will adhere so closely as to make it very hard to get off; some use an old shell for this purpose, others a spoon, or a piece of tin; but we take pleasure in presenting to our readers



POT-CLEANER.

a handy article, always ready for the purpose, and not to clean afterwards. Once used you would not be without it. It is made of steel, and being flexible, will fit any pot, cooker or skillet. The handle is about five inches long and the scraper four inches long.

THE FARM AND FIRESIDE will send this pot-cleaner free to any one sending in one yearly subscriber at 65 cents, if the subscriber wants a cleaner also—or at 50 cents, if the subscriber wants the paper only. Price, when purchased, 25 cents, or with FARM AND FIRESIDE one year, 65 cents. Postage paid by us in each case.

TWO SONGS.

"I'll make my song so grand and high—
So high," he said, "that those who hear
Will stand and gaze into the sky,
As on a soaring bird they fear
That earthward turns,
And where some planet shines alone
My song shall sit, and those who see
Will say that star has higher grown,
And all, perchance, because of me,
It brighter burns."

"And I would stay close to the grass—
So near that a sweet child could kiss
My song," she said, "where those who pass
Would brush its bloom, and I could miss
One fragrance less,

I'd have my song so sweet, its wing
So fragile yet so perfectly wrought,
That both would seem some spirit thing
Of comfort, down from heaven brought
For men to bless."

—*Katydid, in Times-Democrat.*

CAKE MAKING.

Cake making has improved very much in the last few years, and has now become simplified so that by carefully following instructions one need not produce a set of failures.

Perfect tools to work with always insure good work and the set of tins we illustrate in this number, will convince our readers of their immense practicability over the old method.

These pans being made with an opening in the side through which a knife can be slipped and the cake cut loose from the bottom, allowing it to come from the pan in an unbroken manner. No grease is necessary with these pans, and as the cake adheres to the pan, it can be inverted and left in the pan to cool before removing it, thereby insuring perfect lightness, as its weight stretches it out. We will carry for awhile a column on instruction on cake baking and making; thereby allowing our subscribers the benefit of cooking-school lessons. Our lady readers are invited to send their request for information on cake-making, to be answered through our

square or round molds may be had, as suits the subscriber best.

We will also send one layer-mold (either round or square) free to any one sending one yearly subscriber at 65 cents, if the subscriber wants a layer-mold also—or at 50 cents if the subscriber wants the paper only. Price of one layer-mold when purchased, 20 cents; or with FARM AND FIRESIDE one year, 65 cents. But 10 cents extra for each mold must be inclosed with the order, to pay postage. Molds will not be sent unless this postage is included.

We will also send a loaf-mold set, including one loaf-mold, one measuring-cup and one set of cake recipes, free to any one sending two yearly subscribers at 75 cents each, if the subscribers take the loaf-mold set also—or at 50 cents if the subscribers want the paper only. The sender of the two subscribers gets the loaf-mold set in either case. Price of loaf-mold set when purchased, 35 cents; or with FARM AND FIRESIDE one year, 75 cents. But 15 cents extra for each loaf-mold set must be inclosed for postage. They positively will not be forwarded unless this amount for postage is included.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

HINTS FROM MAY MANTON.

This basque, designed either for home or street wear, is one of the latest and most popular styles. The model was of Parisian novelty cloth woven in shades of green, magenta and brown, most harmoniously blended, the velvet trimming being of the rich magenta. The effect was almost bewildering, even in this season of startling combinations, but the brightness can be modified to suit individual taste. Any of the popular brown shades trim charmingly with velvet in either brown or green, the two-tone effects being much used in velvet.

Eminence purple and blue are colors much worn, trimmed with velvet of a darker shade. The basque can also be made of one material and tailor-finished

size wanted. Pattern No. 4,027 (misses' waist) can be furnished in sizes 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. Always state age of the miss that pattern is wanted for.

A HOME COOK BOOK.

It was only a blank exercise-book, such as is used by school-children, costing ten years ago, fifteen cents, but which can be bought for five or ten cents now. The owner, who was a school-teacher, soon to be married, felt she was not as well posted in culinary matters as she would like to be, and decided to make a cook-book of her own, feeling certain she could have it more reliable than any she could buy.



No. 4,027.

MISSSES' WAIST, WITH RIPPLE BRETTELLES AND SKIRT.

Teaching in a very social neighborhood, she was often invited out, and made it a rule to procure the favorite recipes of her different hostesses. All good cooks like to talk about their culinary operations, so that she picked up many a valuable hint and stored it away in her book, which being carefully indexed and divided under different headings, soon became very valuable.

All seemingly good recipes from papers and magazines that were explicit, were either copied or cut out and pasted in, and by the time she began housekeeping she had a veritable "housekeeper's friend," for her book contained medical, health and cleaning hints, as well as some miscellaneous information. Although more than one published cook-book has been added to her kitchen library, she still clings to her home-made book, for it is far more valuable than any she could buy, and she bids me tell the FARM AND FIRESIDE readers about it, that they, too, may go and do likewise.

If a blank book is not easily procured, any old printed volume will answer, by first cutting out over three fourths of the leaves. On the stubs of about half of these could be pasted sheets of light manila paper (wrapping-paper), on which recipes could be copied, using the printed pages for the clipped recipes.

One thing which renders the book peculiarly valuable is its choice collection of economical recipes and those for using the "left-overs," many of which we will some day give to our readers. Here are some choice recipes procured from a Yankee friend, who, she declares, was the best cook she ever ate after:

BOSTON BROWN BREAD.—Three cupfuls of sour milk, one cupful of molasses, one cupful of corn-meal, three cupfuls of Graham flour, one tablespoonful of salt and one teaspoonful of soda. Dissolve the soda in the sour milk, then add the molasses and stir well, after which add salt, meal and Graham, stirring and beating until perfectly smooth; pour into well-buttered molds, set in a steamer over boiling water, cover closely and steam four hours. Remove to a very moderate oven fifteen or twenty minutes to dry the top, which is quite moist from the steam. Tin fruitcans with the top melted off make good molds.

BOSTON BAKED BEANS.—One quart of beans, carefully picked over and soaked in cold water over night. In the morning put on to cook in plenty of cold water; let them boil for half an hour, then add half a teaspoonful of soda; cook five minutes, and carefully drain off all the water; add sufficient boiling water to cook, and stir now and then for two hours. Wash and scrape one pound of pickled pork and score the rind about a quarter of an inch apart. Put the beans in a bean-pot, add half a cupful of molasses; put the meat in

the center, with the rind even with the top of the beans; add boiling water until the pork and beans are well nigh covered, cover the pot and bake five or six hours or all day. In the morning heat through, remove the cover and brown, when they will be delicious, and the oftener they are warmed up the better they will be. If one has no bean-pot, a crock or jar may be used, but is not quite so nice.

SOFT GINGERBREAD.—Three well-beaten eggs, one cupful of sour cream, one cupful of butter, or part butter and part meat drippings, one cupful of sugar, one cupful of molasses, one teaspoonful of soda, one tablespoonful of ginger, one teaspoonful of cinnamon and flour as for cake; cream the butter and sugar, dissolve the soda in the milk and add to it the molasses; then add the well-beaten eggs, the butter and sugar and the spices; lastly add flour, half a cupful at a time, beating thoroughly until perfectly smooth. Line a dripping-pan with well-oiled paper and put in the dough to the depth of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and a half. Bake very slowly, so as not to scorch.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERTS.

Schiffmann's Asthma Cure

Instantly relieves the most violent attack, facilitates free expectoration and insures rest to those otherwise unable to sleep except in a chair, as a single trial will prove. Send for a free trial package to Dr. R. Schiffmann, St. Paul, Minn., but ask your druggist first.

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T CLUBS

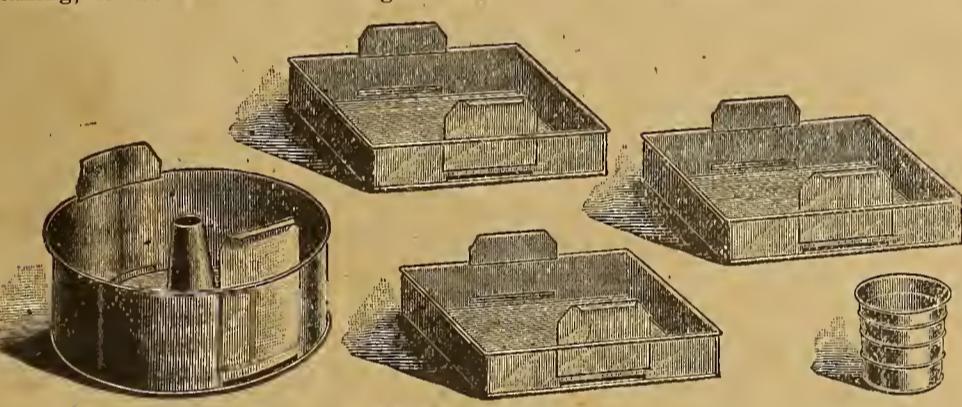
We give away Lace Curtains, with \$4, \$6, or \$8 orders. White Tea Set, 56 and 70 pieces, with \$11 and \$13 orders. Pair Ladies' Dongola Kid Boots, with \$6 orders. Safety Bicycle, Cushion Tires, with \$80 orders. Decorated Granite Diner Sets, 112 pieces, with \$20 orders. Hanging Lamp and Decorated shade, with \$10 & \$12 orders. Violin, Banjo and Guitar, with \$12, \$16, and \$25 orders. Moss Rose Toilet Set, with \$15 orders. Stem Winding Swiss Watch, Ladies' or Boy's, with \$10 orders.

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Washington Crossing the Delaware.—Cut this ad out and send to us and we will send you this beautiful Gold Plated watch, by express, subject to full examination, and if you do not find it equal to any watch retailed at 3 times our price, you need not pay one cent. Otherwise pay the express agent \$3.25. The movement is a jeweled quick train, with oil tempered Pinion and Hair Spring. Durable accurate time keeper. Case is made of coin nickel, hand engraved (Cut shows back of case) over which is placed 2 plates 14k Gold. Fully warranted. In carrying this watch you have the credit of owning a SOLID GOLD WATCH and for use just as desirable. W. HILL & CO., Wholesale jewelers, 207 State St., CHICAGO, ILL.



CAKE-MAKING UTENSILS.

columns by one of the most famous cake-makers of the day.

These pans being made of very heavy tin are very durable, and once used the owner would not be without them. The shallow ones can be used for corn-bread and deep pies; with the pans is a measuring-cup, thereby insuring the same quantity every time.

These cake-molds are made of the very best of tin, and are of the regulation size. Over 200,000 of these molds have been sold within the past year, and give universal satisfaction. The FARM AND FIRESIDE has



No. 4,025.—LADIES' BASQUE.

arranged to offer this set of molds as a premium. We will send them free for six yearly subscribers, or for four yearly subscribers and 40 cents additional; or for two yearly subscribers and 80 cents additional; or for one yearly subscriber and \$1 additional. Price, when purchased, \$1.25; or with FARM AND FIRESIDE one year, \$1.50. Expressage paid by us in each case. Either

with stitched edges or braid. Jet or galloons can be used to outline the revers, collars and cuffs. Many rows of braid is a very popular and exceedingly stylish finish for basques in this style.

We here present a design for misses—one of the latest Parisian designs.

Mauve Henrietta was trimmed with heavy-shaded bengaline showing tones of pink and green, decorated with white lace insertion. Made in cloth and velvet, with narrow, jet braid trimming, the full front of Brussels lace over some bright, becoming color, a prettier or more stylish garment for a miss could not be imagined. If made in one material, an edging of fur would be seasonable. The waist can be made without the belt and ripple skirt portion, if so preferred. The fullness in front and back can be omitted if desired, the pattern supplying a plain, fitted lining, which can be smoothly covered with the material.

The ladies' basque and misses' waist shown on this page are made from the celebrated "Bazar glove-fitting patterns." Dressmakers and fashion authorities recommend them as being among the most simple, economical and reliable cut-paper patterns. Full and explicit directions for putting together the garment accompany each pattern. We have arranged with the makers of these patterns to furnish us with them in all sizes. They are thoroughly reliable and complete in every way. We will mail two patterns of either style or any size, and the FARM AND FIRESIDE one year, for 65 cents, or will send two patterns free to any one sending us one yearly subscriber at 65 cents, if the subscriber takes two patterns also—or at 50 cents if the subscriber wants the paper only. Price of each pattern, when purchased, 25 cents. Postage paid by us. Order by pattern number.

NOTE.—Pattern No. 4,025 (ladies' basque) can be furnished in five sizes—32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches, bust measure. Always give

Our Household.

A MAN IN THE DISH-PAN.

My wife has figgered out to me, in tongue and black an' white, that she Has more to do from sun to sun, than I outside; said she: "I'll run Your chores an' clear things up to-night, while you wash dishes!" I'm perlite Enough to give my wife full kite, an' so prove to her that I'm right, So after supper off she went an' done the chores; it's no great stent, Because I've gut things fixed to save most every step and light and shave The labor bill; but, as for me, I tacked them air dishes, ye see! An' first send off I plum fergot to keep my water bilin' hot. I swun I couldn't get 'em clean; I never see things aet so mean. My wife set there and give me roop enough. "Why don't ye use some soap?" says she. My stars! I could et that woman up, I was so het. An' so into the night I swashed, and, when I thought I'd gut 'em washed, I found a half a dozen more, while wife set laughin' to the core. Ez nigh ez I could figger out, I washed and dried that night about Three dozen pieces, multiply that figger or a bigger by Ten hundred and ninety-five—the meals in one year's time—that's how wife feels. I've ye what, there's somethin' wrong; our work outside goes like a song. We set an' ride an' ride an' ride, and all the time our wives inside At meanest handwork toil away like some old tread-mill horse, I say, That here's a chance for Edison to get the biggest slice of fun That ever in man's poeket fell; 'lectricity is very well, But he could beat it slick and clean by washin' dishes by machine.

WINTER HOSPITALITY.

En this age, when there is too general a strife for luxury, there is apt to be neglected that which adds more to our happiness—which is comfort. It is a relief to find a house where there is no attempt at display, but a constant aim for contentment. Each of us can remember a few homes where there is nothing for style, but everything for coziness. Sometimes young housekeepers begin with high-flown ideas about the entertainment of guests. We often hear such remarks as, "I should like to have her visit me only I can't put on the style she does," or, after having seen an acquaintance in a better home, the plain liver says, "I'll be terribly mortified if she ever comes to see me." These expressions do not betoken the best kind of pride. In the summer two things are necessary to successful entertainment of a guest—cordiality and cleanliness. In the winter one thing more is necessary, and that is—warmth.

Our minister, who is a young man, was lamenting that the Methodist preachers of his generation are so poor in reminiscences while those of fifty years ago had perils in woods and plains, long horseback rides with saddle-bags, and adventures of various kinds, which, although grievous at the time, do work up into such delightfully thrilling stories; he was trying to collect what he could in the way of tales of hardships pertaining to his first few years of "circuit-riding." Among other things, he said: "I remember one good sister in the country who had her yard piled up with fire-wood, ushered me into a bedroom where the thermometer was six degrees below zero. She said—as though it was a joke—"Well, brother D., if we don't freeze you out to-night, I don't know as we ever can!"

Wasn't that a blood-curdling tale? Indeed it was, and one can almost doubt the Christianity of such a "sister." She certainly forgot the golden rule.

There are some very foolish ideas about "hardening" the human body, and one of these is the theory that cold bedrooms are healthy in winter. A cold bedroom at home is bad enough, then one can warm at the sitting-room fire, perhaps half undress there, and run and jump into bed before all the comfortable heat is gone, but to put a stranger into a cold room is to treat him with barbarous inhospitality. If the guest-chamber has no stove, by all means heat the bed. The accompanying illustration of the pretty French maid performing her hospitable duty, fills us with comfortable thoughts. The picture of the warming-pan is given, and it is a very pretty one. If not in possession of anything so artistic, a jug of hot water or a hot flat-iron

wrapped in a towel, will have quite as happy an effect. No matter how honeys the contrivance, be sure your guest is warm. He will love you better; he will wish to visit you again; he will not sniffle for weeks afterward with a bad cold, and say, with what thanks you can imagine, "I got this cold the night I staid at brother R.'s."

Ask your guest if there are enough covers on the bed, and have handy a few extra blankets. Do not make fun of him if he prefers to sleep next to wool, instead of clammy cotton or flannel. Do not deny him the simple and inexpensive comfort of hot water to wash in; have it *hot*, not disappointingly luke-warm. Let a cozy steam curl up from the pitcher as it is set on the stand. In short, let your winter guest be served with the necessities of a warm body if you would have him remember you with the kindly-ness of a warm heart.

KATE KAUFFMAN.

MY WEST WINDOW.

I sat at my west window of a fall day, because it looked out upon the flower garden. The flowers were mostly gone, but I thought I would do as the Quakers do, "gather into the stillness" and listen. The border of *Polyanthus* claimed my notice first; the flowers had blossomed their brief day, and now the plants had donned their brown coat and were concentrating their juicy sympathies upon their roots, to garnish them there until after the rest of a long, cold winter, when again they will come to listen to the song of the robin and brighten and glow like the cheeks of childhood kissed by the first warm rays of the vernal sun. Then there are tulips; they stand like hatless soldiers in line, being reviewed. Their uniform is laid aside, but they seem to say that when spring returns they will hear her voice and come forth in radiant beauty.

The little pansies are our congenial spirits, and they seem to link the poetry of winter with the eloquence of spring, and prepare the world for the floral treasures of summer. The peonies have their message as, leaf by leaf, it falls off the shrub, as it trembles in the wind. As in life some of the richest experiences are un-

the dear old wood, which was called the "sugar bush," where the clear sap, by the aid of sap-bucket, neck-yoke and stalwart arms, was gathered from the dripping spoil and brought to the kettle where, amidst fire and smoke, laughter and joke, it changed to the rich, golden cakes.

As I look I know the maples, the oaks and rugged hickories, the chestnut and the whole family of forest trees have yielded to the woodman's ax, and another flock of sunshine comes over my little stream. Still it murmurs on, and bears on its surface the rounded bark with paper sails,



WARMING THE BED.

which are set afloat by other children on its banks now, just as my school friends and I did long ago. Then I used to sit on the banks of that stream, and it had a voice for me.

In those years I learned to love the stately measures of the old poets. Milton had a strange fascination for me, and held me almost spellbound. There I dreamed my name would float down the tide of time linked to immortality, as the author of something of strength and beauty that would be "a joy forever." Young then awakened in me a chord of sympathy, and with him I'd say, "wishing, of all employments, was the worst."

In Pope's flowing verse could I

"Ask of thy mother earth, why oaks are made Taller and stronger than the weeds they shade."

Or with Burns:

"When the supper done, with cheerful face They round the ingle form a circle wide."

There I realized that Shakespeare hews human nature so closely that the chips fly in everyone's face. With Dick I almost dwelt among the stars. Books and newspapers did not carpet my youthful pathway, so I had more time to read over and over the old pages of old poets and romancers. It did not take a strong fancy to people the ravines and glens with *Rhoderic Dhu's* and imagine that a *Lady Ellen* could be found on some of our inland lakes siuging, in *Walter Scott's* measure:

"Rather through realms beyond the seas, Seeking the cold charities, Where ne'er was heard a Scottish word, Nor ne'er the name of Douglas heard, An outcast exile would I rove, Than wed the man I could not love."

My little brook still murmurs on. It runs in the same pebbly bed, though far from my west window. Never has ocean, or mountain torrent, or sleeping lake been to me what that little singing brook was, as it wended its way in quiet and seclusion to be lost in deeper woods.

Here at my window I know that there are large rivers and great seas and people that go down in ships, but the little stream which I now know is one of the tributaries of a great lake. It often speaks to me as I sit and "gather into the stillness," and it brings content as I take its lessons, that as all the small streams make the great sea, so will our small lives fulfill their purpose if, as they flow on, they give inspiration to those who are on the banks, and if they reflect the beautiful things that look down upon them.

MARY JOSLYN SMITH.

tured in sorrow, so in nature winds and storms are required for the most perfect exhibition of her power. Whether it be the rose-tree or the aster or the dahlia, all alike have the brown and somber color, and all await the springtime.

But I keep looking through the west window till I seem to see the quiet country farm of my childhood. There is the little murmuring stream that had its rise in the distant hills and came to us from its embowered home, tinkling its merry song as it threaded its way through pasture and meadow. It murmured its way through

DAINTY LUNCHES FOR TRAVELING.

One of the requisites of a pleasant journey is a substantial lunch, daintily packed in baskets or boxes. Boxes are often preferred, inasmuch as they can be thrown away after the contents are eaten.

Extra pains should always be taken to have lunches inviting and appetizing. Each article should be wrapped separately. If several meals are to be taken during the journey, it is wise to have as many boxes, the same size, instead of one very large one. Sandwiches should always be cut very thin and small, so that they are easily to handle. Wrap them in several thicknesses of white cheese-cloth, which has been rung out in cold water, so that they will keep moist. Oiled paper is very nice to wrap around meat, cake, cookies, etc. Coffee and milk can be carried nicely in a large bottle.

A small alcohol lamp often proves very convenient when traveling, and the milk or coffee can be heated in a few moments, or tea made.

Celery sandwiches are delicious, and will keep moist longer than those with a meat filling. Chop the celery very fine and mix with a nice dressing, and spread between the thin slices of bread and butter.

Chicken, veal, ham or tongue are all nice for sandwiches. Chop and mix with a nice dressing. A good rule is given below for the dressing to be used with the meat filling:

Yolks of three eggs, one tablespoonful of butter, one dessert-spoonful each of mustard and salt, one saltspoonful of cayenne pepper, half a cupful of vinegar.

Another dressing which is better for the celery filling is made of one tablespoonful of butter, one third cupful of sugar, one teaspoonful of salt, one dessert-spoonful of flour, half a cupful of vinegar and three eggs.

A very nice filling for sandwiches is chopped nuts moistened with cream, so they will spread easily.

Salad eggs are nice and easily made. Boil your eggs hard, cut in halves, leaving the shells on for traveling to better protect them, and remove the yolks. Mash them fine; season with a little salt, about as much mustard and enough vinegar to moisten. Mix thoroughly and return to the whites. Plain, hard-boiled eggs are relished by many.

Crisp celery is always good. When pickles are taken, let them be olives or small cucumbers, in open-mouthed bottles. Small glasses of jelly are easily packed, and very appetizing. When cake is taken, let it be something that is not sticky. A nice mint-cake, or a good caramel one, where the icing is dry and firm; a plain fruit-cake or a ribbon one, made of two white layers with one of fruit between. Never take custard or jelly cake, unless you expect to have it mashed and spoiled.

If one desires lemonade, it is an easy matter to make it if the juice is squeezed into a bottle with sufficient sugar added to it. As it is needed, add cold water.

Gingersups and gingerbread, when nice, tastes fine on the cars; also snowflake wafer-crackers.

By no means should fruit be forgotten, for there is nothing more healthful or satisfying than luscious peaches, pears, apples, bananas and grapes.

Rolls are sometimes preferred to sandwiches, and frequently it is necessary to take butter. In that case it is better to carry it in a jelly-tumbler, tying a piece of white muslin over the top and then fastening on the top. If salad is to be taken, put it into a pint fruit-can and screw the cover on.

Fried chicken should have each piece wrapped separately in old, white muslin or cheese-cloth. Do not forget salt, if eggs or celery are taken.

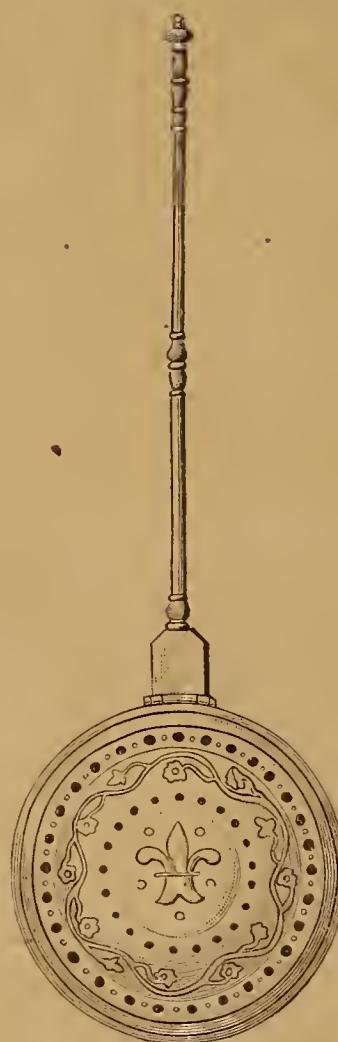
It is well to put in a few wooden toothpicks. Japanese napkins answer nicely if one does not care to bother with linen ones, though, the latter are sometimes more useful. Cover the box or basket with a cloth and then with brown paper, before putting the cover on, to keep the dust out. Do not forget one very important article—the drinking-cup.

Where boxes are taken for each meal, don't try to have them all alike, for it becomes monotonous. In one put chicken, sandwiches, celery, olives, gingerbread, etc., and in another celery, sandwiches, jelly, cucumber pickles, cold tongue and cake. Aim to have a variety.

CARRIE MAY ASHTON.

St. Vitus Dance. One bottle Dr. Fenner's Specific Cures. Free by mail. Circular. Fredonia, N. Y.

Agents for this paper get Big Pay.



WARMING-PAN.

NOT MELANCHOLY DAYS.

These ain't the "melancholy days," no matter what they say; There's more good fun in all the ways than's been there many a day. The crackin' of the teamsters' whip, the shoutin' of a boy As the apples come a-tumblin' down—that's joy for you—big joy!

These ain't the "melancholy days"—there's lots of fun in sight; The cool and bracin' mornin's, and the big oak fires at night; The hounds upon the rabbit's trail—the wild doves on the wing— The malden with the red lips, an' the lover with the ring!

These ain't the melancholy days—not much! They're full of life. An' you're thankful fer your sweetheart, an' you praise God fer your wife!

An' then, on general principles—in view of what he's givin'— You shout a hallelujah for the [privilege o' livin'.

—Frank L. Stanton, in *Atlanta Constitution*.

CROCHET BRAID EDGING.

ABBREVIATIONS.—Ch means chain; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; tr, treble crochet; lg tr, long treble; st, stitch.

The braid is to be crocheted the length required, with the edge and scallops crocheted on afterward.

The followings, braid. Ch 20 st.

First row—1 s c in twelfth st of ch (ch 5, miss 3, 1 s c in the next st), twice, ch 8; turn.

Second row—1 s c in third st of 5 ch, ch 5, 1 s c in third st of next 5 ch, ch 5, 1 s c in third st of 11 ch of the foundation, ch 8; turn.

Third row—1 s c in third st of 5 ch (first loop), ch 5, 1 s c in third st of next loop, ch 5, 1 s c in third st of 8 ch, ch 8; turn.

Repeat the third row for the length required, and along one side of the braid have the number of loops divisible by 4, and also add on one or two extra loops for the scallops.

First row—* 1 tr, ch 11, 1 tr all in one loop of braid, ch 5 (1 tr, ch 9, 1 tr all in the next loop, ch 5), twice, 1 tr, ch 11, 1 tr all in next loop, ch 5. Repeat from * for the length required of braid.

Second row—* 1 tr in loop of 11 ch of previous row, ch 4, 1 tr in loop of 9 ch, ch 4, 1 tr in next loop of 9 ch, ch 4, 1 tr in loop of 11 ch, ch 6. Repeat from * for the length required.

Third row—6 tr under each ch of 4 st, and 9 tr under each ch of 6 st for the length required.

Fourth row—* 3 lg tr in (thred over hook twice before inserting) 3 first st of 6 tr (missing first group of 6 tr), ch 1, 3 lg tr in next 3 st of 6 tr, ch 8, miss 7 st, 7 d c in the 7 center st of 9 tr, ch 8, miss 7 st. Repeat from * for the length required.

Fifth row—* 3 long tr in first 3 st of 6 tr, ch 3, miss 1 ch, 3 lg tr in next 3 st, ch 6, 1 lg tr in each st of 7 d c, ch 6. Repeat from * for the length required.

Sixth row—* 1 tr in first st of 3 lg tr, 2 lg tr in next 2 st, ch 2, miss 1 st, 2 lg tr separated by 3 ch in the next st, ch 2, miss 1, 2 lg tr in next 2 st, 1 tr in next, ch 6, 5 d c in 5 center st of 7 lg tr, ch 6. Repeat from * for the length required.

Seventh row—* 1 tr and ch 1 in each st of 3 tr, 8 lg tr under 3 ch, with 1 ch between each of them, ch 1 and 1 tr in next 3 tr st, ch 4, 3 d c in 3 center st of 5 d c, ch 4. Repeat from * for the length required.

Eighth row—* 1 d c under 1 ch between the first and second tr (ch 5, 1 d c under next 1 ch), twelve times, ch 5, 1 d c in center st of 3 d c, ch 5. Repeat from * for the length required.

Ninth row—* 1 s c in third st of 5 ch, ch 7, 1 s c in fifth st of 7 ch from hook, ch 2. Repeat from * twelve times (1 tr in third st of 5 ch each side of the 1 d c on 3 d c), ch 7, 1 s c in fifth st of 7 ch from hook, ch 2. Repeat from the first *, at the beginning of the row, for the length required.

FOR THE HEADING.

First row—1 tr, ch 9, 1 tr all in each loop of braid, with 5 ch between. Repeat for the length required.

Second row—1 tr in fifth st of 9 ch, ch 5. Repeat for the length required.

Third row—* 1 tr on tr, ch 1, miss 1, 1 tr in next st, ch 1, miss 1, 1 tr, ch 1, miss 1. Repeat from * for the length required.

ELLA McCOWEN.

AN ASTHMA CURE AT LAST.

European physleians and medical journals report a positive cure for Asthma, in the Kola plant, found on the Congo River, West Africa. The Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, are sending free trial cases of the Kola Compound by mail to all sufferers from Asthma, who send name and address on a postal card. A trial costs you nothing.

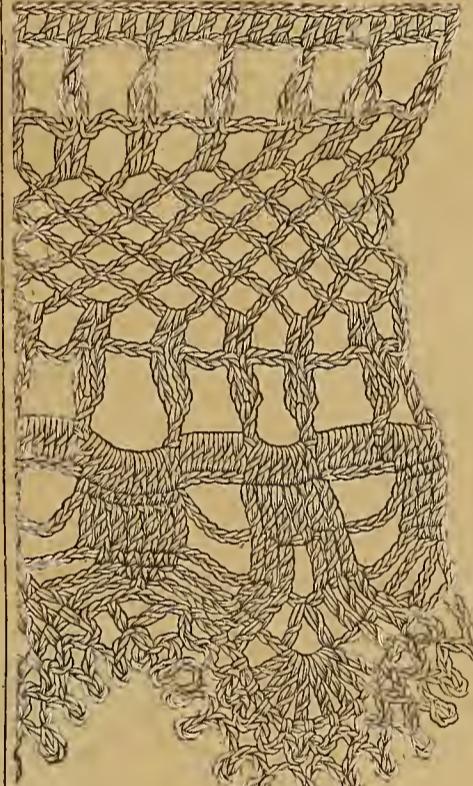
AN IDEAL NURSERY.

In many homes, too little attention is paid to the nursery, and a large number of children spend the greater part of every twenty-four hours in a small, poorly-ventilated room, which is neither attractive nor comfortable.

It has been said, and with truth, that no room in which we live during the day should be occupied as a sleeping-room at night. In nearly every home one room can be spared for a nursery. Never mind if your parlor has to be turned into a cozy living-room in order to make this change. It will pay you in the end.

Tastes differ, and many might desire a room on the ground floor for this purpose, but my choice is an upper room facing the south and east. Let it be furnished simply but tastefully, and in a manner pleasing to the little folks who are to occupy it. It is desirable, when practical, to have a grate, both for ventilation purposes and to heat the room; or rather, to take off the chill on cold mornings and evenings during the summer, when the furnace or coal-stoves are not running.

The children of W. K. Vanderbilt have a beautifully-decorated nursery and schoolroom with Mother Goose melodies and nursery rhymes on the walls. For the older children there are quotations from Shakspere. Few of us, if any, can afford such a beautiful room, but many might have fully as artistic a one if they studied to make it so.



CROCHET BRAID EDGING.

An ideal nursery, which was designed and carried out by a clever young artist for her sister's children, is worthy of description. The house was a new one, and the room chosen for this purpose was a large corner one, containing two south and two east windows. The woodwork was pine, oiled and hard finished. The walls were tinted a pale yellowish tinge, and then the work began in earnest, for it was no easy task to decorate them with appropriate rhymes and quotations, as well as quaint and amusing pictures. As this pretty room was a surprise for New-Year's, the first quotation was chosen because of its appropriateness:

Little children, don't you hear
Some one knocking at your door?
Don't you know the glad New-year
Comes to you and me once more?

Comes with treasures ever new
Spread out at our waiting feet?
High resolves and purpose true
Round our lives to music sweet.

Ours to choose the thorns or flowers,
If we but mind our duty,
Spend aright the priceless hours,
And life will glow with beauty.

Let us then the portals fling,
Heaping high the liberal cheer;
Let us laugh, and shout, and sing,
"Weleome, weleome, glad New-year!"

On either side of this poem were huge sprays of holly and its crimson berries. Farther on are cherub faces. Occasionally there are some lines from Mother Goose, such as

Rock-a-bye, baby, on the tree-top,
When the wind blows the eradle will fall.

With appropriate sketches.

Sing a song of sixpence,
A poeket full of rye.

Is also noticed.

A few stray verses are given below.

To those who serve you, children all,
Be gentle and polite;
For thus are gentlewomen known,
Or gentlemen, at sight.

Be gentle and loving,
Be kind and polite;
Be thoughtful for others,
Be sure and do right.

"Tis wrong, my dear, to do a thing
That mother must not know;
And when your playmates, old or young,
Shall tell you thus to do,
Leave them at once, and quickly come
To your dear mother's side,
And tell her, for she'll know what's wrong,
And she will be your guide.

A "Yes" and "No" are common, hard;
But "Yes'in," "No, sir," choice;
Let none but sweet and gentle words
Flow from your gift of voice.

Papa, when you dive me tandy
Dive me only white;
Tause there's poison in the tolored,
Which my health will blight;
But you better dive me sudar,
Let the tandy be—
Tause I shall not want so much,
And that is best for me.

Instead of a carpet, a pretty Japanese matting was chosen for the floor, with a few gay rugs to give brightness. Children as a rule, like warm, rich colors. A low bookcase, to correspond with the wood-work, was filled with suitable books for the four children, all carefully selected and by the best authors. Here was found a broad, low couch, with a bright cover, downy pillows and a warm slumber-robe to throw over whoever might care to take a nap thereon; there were several comfortable chairs, graduating in size from the small rocker for wee Willie to the large, easy one for grandma. A pretty screen to shut off a draft had the three panels covered with brown cambric on both sides, and then all sorts of gay picture-cards pasted on. A border or frieze of handsome wall-paper was used to finish the edge.

On the walls were hung a few good pictures, copies of the old masters. It is surprising to know what an influence pictures have over all our lives, and especially those of children.

On the mantel was a clock, a vase for flowers and a calendar. A small, rattan table held the children's magazines—*Harper's Young People*, *Youth's Companion*, *Our Little Ones*, etc.

A large, spacious closet opened out of the nursery, with drawers for each of the children to keep their toys in, and hooks for their clothing. Here everything belonging to them was sacred, but once out of their own room or closet, no one was responsible for their belongings.

Nothing seemed forgotten which would instruct or entertain, for there were all sorts of kindergarten books and games for these fortunate little folks.

The trouble is with too many nurseries that they are overcrowded with all the odds and ends that are thrown out of the other rooms. Like every other room, there should be an individuality expressed in the furnishings of the nursery.

CARRIE MAY ASHTON.

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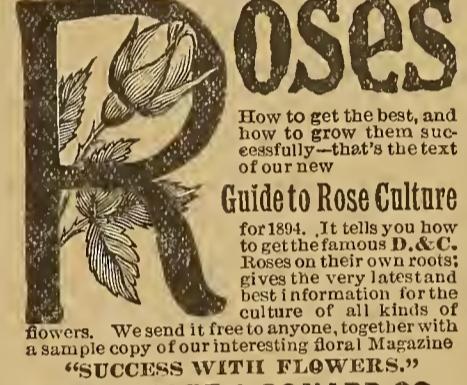
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Our Sunday Afternoon.

MY KING.

You are all that I have to live for—
All that I want to love,
All that the whole world holds for me
Of a faith in the world above!
You came—and it seemed too mighty
For my humble heart to hold;
It seemed, in its sacred glory,
Like a glimpse through the gate of gold,
Like life in the perennial Eden,
Created, formed anew—
This dream of perfect manhood
That I realize in you.

God created me a woman,
With a nature just as true
As the blue, eternal ocean—
As the sky that is over you,
And you are mine until your maker calls
you—
Your soul and your body, sweet!
Your breath, and the whole of your being,
From your kingly head to your feet—
Your eyes, and the light that is in them—
Your lips, with their maddening wine—
Your arms, with their passionate clasp, my
king—
Your body and soul are mine.

No power, whatsoever,
No will but God's alone,
Can take you from my keeping;
You are his and mine alone!

I know not where, if ever—
I know not when or how
Death's hands may try the fitters
That binds us here and now;
But some day, when God beckons,
Where rise his fronded palms,
My soul shall cross the river
And lay you in his arms;
Forever and forever, beyond the silent seas,
You will rest in the arms eternal,
And still belong to me.

—Boston Times.

MAN AND THE BOOK.

LAST Sunday an Atlanta divine preached a sermon in which he warned his hearers not to worship the Bible—not to make the mistake of regarding the book as the equal of Christ, but to look upon it simply as a help to Christ. The preacher meant well, but in this age of free thinking, when scientists and critics are consciously and unconsciously unsettling the foundations of Christian faith, every word that minimizes the word of God is doing a serious injury to the cause of religion.

Our Atlanta divine said, among other things, that a mother has not necessarily done much for her boy because she has bought him a nice Bible and put it in his trunk. We prefer not to hear any more of this sort of talk. The effect is bad—always bad, and no splitting of hairs, and no higher criticism, and no subtle explanations can mend the matter. Give us the old-fashioned mother who sends her son out into the world with a Bible in his trunk, and give us the old-fashioned boy who reads that Bible every night with tears in his eyes, as he thinks of the old folks at home, and their simple lives devoted to the cause of the Master. Give us the man, woman or child whose hands touch the Bible reverently, instead of slinging it about like a dictionary. Give us the plain old fellow who quickly takes leave of the circle in which critics are proceeding to ably explain away certain chapters of the Scripture.

We live in an era of restless upheaval, and on every hand we see thousands of men advocating theories calculated to overturn the law, destroy the state, undermine the church, separate families, and result in violence, anarchy and a red carnival of madness. As a safeguard against those dangers, hold fast to the old Bible of your fathers. The boy who is taught to reverence it will grow up a good citizen, if not a good Christian. Destroy the old-fashioned idea regarding this book, and we shall have a republic of infidels defying God, defying law, and repeating the licentiousness and the horrors of the French revolution.

We do not want any new theories about the Bible—no new versions—no new criticisms. If you cannot accept it as a whole and reverence it as the word of God, then be silent. Say nothing that will weaken the faith of others. Never knock away the staff that supports the crippled wayfarer. Why tell the good, gray-haired mother that it will do no good to give a Bible to her child when he leaves home, unless you can suggest a better substitute? There is too much free, loose and irreverent talk these days, and people are the worse for it. Let us all call a halt!

GOOD ADVICE TO YOUNG WOMEN.

There is nothing so certain to make you disliked as to tell your troubles to a friend. Prosperity means friends, but once you take it into your head to retail your woes you will soon discover that your company is not wanted, and the people who once bowed to you in pleasant recognition, now walk on the other side of the way, with a cold and stony glare that looks over your head or through your body, but never meets your eyes as of yore.

The people are not hard-hearted that turn the cold shoulder to you. They are only averse to knowing of any more misery than they already have to bear. We everyone of us have our little troubles. In some cases they grow to be very large ones, and it isn't pleasant to have the dark side continually thrust before us just when we begin to feel a bit comfortable in our minds over some unpleasant occurrence that has upset us for a time.

Take a bit of valuable advice, and when you feel like telling some one of your spat with your intended, or how low your finances are, just remember our warning, and don't do it. Your mother, your father and your husband are the truest sympathizers and, outside of them, you are certain to be soon called a bore if you persist in your harrowing confidences.—Philadelphia Times.

PAUL'S CONCEPTION OF CHRIST.

It is in its conception of Christ that Paul's gospel wears its imperishable crown. The evangelists sketched in a hundred traits of simple and affecting beauty the fashion of the earthly life of the man Christ Jesus, and in these the model of human conduct will always have to be sought, but to Paul was reserved the task of making known, in its heights and depths, the work which the Son of God accomplished as the Savior of the race. He scarcely ever refers to the incidents of Christ's earthly life, although here and there he betrays that he knew them well. To him Christ was ever the glorious being, shining with the splendor of heaven, who appeared to him on the way to Damascus, and the Saviour who caught him up into heavenly peace and joy of a new life. When the church of Christ thinks of her head as the deliverer of the soul from sin and death, as a spiritualizing presence ever with her and at work in every believer, and as the Lord over all things, who will come again without sin unto salvation, it is in forms of thought given her by the Holy Ghost by the instrumental of this apostle.—*Stalker's Life of St. Paul.*

A PATHETIC PRAYER.

The fishermen of Brittany, so the story goes, are wont to utter this simple prayer when they launch their boats upon the deep: "Keep me, my God; my boat is small and the ocean is wide."

How touchingly beautiful the words and the thought! Might not the same petition be uttered with as much directness every morning and evening of our daily life? "Keep me, my God; for my boat is so small and the ocean is wide!" Keep me, my God, keep me from the perils and temptations that throng around me as I go about my daily duties. My boat is small—I am so weak, so helpless, so prone to wander, so forgetful of thy loving kindness! I am tossed to and fro at the mercy of the world; I am buffeted about by sharp adversity and driven before the storms of grief and sorrow. Except thou dost keep me I must perish. Keep me, my God, for "thy ocean is so wide"—the journey is so long, and the days and the years are many. "In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust. Deliver me in thy righteousness."—*Recorder.*

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

It is always well to watch the signs of the times, and especially at present, for there are signs without number, and they all tell of good times. There are bright and encouraging signs everywhere of a reaction from the depression of a few months since, but no sign is needed to impress the traveler with the fact that the Duluth Short Line is the people's popular route with those who like the latest equipment, fast and convenient trains, smooth traveling and super-excellent service. The Duluth Short Line, as the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad is called, offers all of these and makes a specialty of each. Hence the popularity of this route, running, as it does, between St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth, West Superior, Stillwater, Taylors Falls and other points, and making close connections with trains running in all directions. Information cheerfully supplied by ticket agents, or by George W. Bull, General Passenger Agent, or W. A. Russell, Asst. G. P. A., St. Paul, Minn.

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SOME PAPERS READ AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OHIO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, AT COLUMBUS.

Prof. Lazenby gave an account of "Horticultural Work at the State University."

Up to a year ago last September there was no separate course in horticulture, but this was taught as one of the studies in connection with agriculture. At that date a separate course in horticulture was established, and one student had been graduated. Previous to that time the professor's time had been mainly devoted to teaching botany, as the orchard and garden were used by the experiment station. With the establishment of the new course, he made some changes in the methods of teaching. Particular subjects or especial types of studies require particular treatment. The classics may be taught by one method, chemistry by another, engineering by still another, so there must be one best way to teach horticulture. In solving a problem in mathematics the conditions are always the same, unchanged by weather or season of the year. Not so with problems in horticulture. The orchards, gardens and greenhouses are the laboratory, and can only be used at certain times for certain objects.

The material worked with are living things and the conditions are constantly changing. You can tell a student how to build a bridge or measure a piece of land. He follows certain directions and reaches definite results. Horticulture cannot be taught in this way.

The conditions of soil and climate, the inherent tendencies and characteristics, are constantly changing. No problem seems capable of exact solution. Only a few broad, unquestionable truths can be laid down. In teaching horticulture, there is but little experience to guide one; there is no rich accumulation of past experience.

The teachers of horticulture are of a single generation. We are pioneers, and must work out methods for ourselves. In its crude beginning the work is likely to be unappreciated, and perhaps not understood.

There is, however, a place for horticultural study, and it is yearly becoming more necessary. It is taught in many land-grant colleges under the guise of the sciences closely related thereto. However close the relationship, and however necessary as a preparation, these sciences are not horticulture. All the science in the world, while it might signally help, could not make a man a good fruit culturist, florist or landscape gardener. These are arts, and can only be taught by personal observation and practice.

Botany and chemistry may teach much regarding the structure, growth and feeding of plants, but they do not teach how to propagate, transplant, cultivate, fertilize, prune, or what is even more essential, how to gather and market the products to the best advantage. In a department course or school of horticulture the principal thing taught should be horticulture. Professor went on to show the needs of horticultural education in Ohio, and how the times demanded something more than formerly. The teaching of only a few who engage in horticulture, would in time leave the whole community.

He closed with an interesting account of experiments and practice in the garden and fruit orchard, the University having thirty acres devoted to these, about one half being in fruit.

A very interesting paper was read by Prof. Hood, of the Ohio State University, entitled,

"THE HORTICULTURALIST'S WORST INSECT ENEMY."

This is the aphis. The phylloxera, the dreaded insect that has ruined so many vineyards in France, belongs to this family.

This insect multiplies with wonderful rapidity. The apple-tree bark louse is said to keep on multiplying as long as there is room for one to reach the bark with his beak.

Their mode of subsistence is by sucking the juice of living plants through their beak. This makes it impossible to kill them by the use of poison applied to the tree or plant. The insecticide must be something that kills them by contact; and many of them cannot be killed this way, because they live upon the roots, or hide behind the leaves or in the bark.

In the university garden are aphides that prey upon cabbages and lettuce. The only remedies that can be used against them are hot water, kerosene emulsion

and tobacco dust. The former does not injure the vegetables, and would be the best and cheapest if it was possible to keep it just at the right temperature. They were finally destroyed by tobacco dust to such an extent that the crop was saved.

In the greenhouse the loss on lettuce from this cause was fully ten per cent, although the houses were frequently smoked with tobacco. The eggs of the aphis are laid beside the buds near the ends of the twigs. They hatch in the spring, and eight or ten generations are produced during the summer. The issue of one female aphis can easily destroy several acres of hops, as the progeny of the season numbers into the trillions.

The insect enemies of the aphides are our best allies in their destruction. Indeed, if it were not for them, and unfavorable seasons, the insects would totally destroy many of our most valuable trees and vegetables. The larvae of the ladybug consume large quantities. Efforts have been made to colonize the ladybug in greenhouses to destroy the plant-lice, but so far have not succeeded. There are two ichneumon flies which prey upon the aphis; one lays its eggs in the body of the insect, where it hatches and eats its way out; the other deposits its egg in a group of the insects, and the grub hatching therefrom fastens itself to the body of an insect and feeds at its leisure.

Kerosene emulsion was the only safe remedy for the cherry and plum aphis. It was difficult, however, to mix it just right so that it would destroy the lice and not injure the tree. Mr. Willard, of New York, said he mixed it with whale-oil soap, which made a sickening compound, very offensive to the man who used it, but it effectually disposed of the insects.

L. B. Pierce read a paper on

"INTENSIVE BERRY CULTURE."

The long period which it takes to bring fruits into bearing, and the low prices of recent years makes it necessary to change some of the old practices in planting. He urged closer planting and shorter rotation for raspberries and blackberries. Raspberries are usually planted seven by three feet. He would change this and plant three by four or two by four. This gives room for the first year's cultivation, also for the growth of the plant one year, and makes the number of plants that can be planted on an acre very close to 7,500. This gives a large crop of fruit one year from planting, so that a man can afford to plow under the plantation after picking one crop and put the ground in wheat if he chooses, or plant vegetables the next year.

Anthracnose is a disease that attacks raspberries, and after the first year often destroys the crop. By growing the berries only one year, losses from this scourge can be mostly avoided.

Mr. Pierce also suggested a renewal system of growing blackcap raspberries. He suggested planting the first year in rows seven feet apart, with plants two feet in the rows. With these raise a catch crop of vegetables or corn that could be harvested before August 25th; then layer the young plants in a row half way between. In the following spring remove the surplus plants, leaving plants to grow two feet apart. Cultivate these young plants, and after the crop has been removed from the old rows, cut out the old rows, give thorough cultivation until time to layer the tips (about September 1st), then plow a furrow in the line of the old row; distribute fertilizer as needed, then layer in this furrow the tips for another year's planting. In this way the constant succession of first-year crops can be grown for a series of years, depending upon the care given and the fertility of the soil. He also suggested the planting of red raspberries between the black ones in the row, thinking they would grow together without harming each other until after the first crop of black ones had been picked; when the black ones could be removed and the whole row devoted to the red ones. As red ones do not bear much of a crop until the second year, this gave one profitable crop of berries a year sooner.

He also suggested planting blackberries in the same way, also of planting blackberries between the plants of a worn-out raspberry plantation the year before it was proposed to remove the raspberries; this kept up a continuous crop of fruit without losing a year's crop or refitting the ground. The blackberries could be planted with a spade, with but little more cost for labor than if planted on entirely new ground. Blackberries do not require as rich soil as raspberries, and will generally thrive on ground on which raspberries have had their day.

He had not found catch crops of vegetables very profitable to grow in raspberries and blackberries. All things considered he thought Cory's sweet corn the best catch crop to plant with berries.

There was no catch crop that could be planted profitably with strawberries, except small and very early garden vegetables, such as onion sets and lettuce, early beets or radishes. The ground needs to be very rich if one should attempt it, and a near-by market was necessary. The only way that time could be shortened in producing a strawberry crop was to plant a crop of early cabbage, sweet corn or some other vegetable, and follow in August with a planting of strawberries, using potted plants. The crop could be picked the following June, the vines plowed under and a crop of late cabbage, celery or pickling beans raised thereafter. By this method two crops of vegetables and one crop of fruit would be produced in one year on the same ground.

L. B. P.

SPRINGSTEEN. Celebrated for educating and controlling ALL HORSES. Guaranteed Jap. 70 cts. X.O. Plate, \$1; Nickel, \$1.50 each, mailed.

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MAST, FOOS & CO., SPRINGFIELD, O.

Our Miscellany.

An old gentleman standing before a marble statue which wore only the costume of the "nude in art." He slowly spelled the title—"P-s-y-c-h-e"—and with one sweeping glance, he murmured, "Ah, yes! I see—Physique."

For safety in driving use a Springsteen Bit, 75 cents mailed. F. W. FLOYD, Detroit, Mich.

An experienced whaler is authority for the statement that the Greenland whale never has more than one set of teeth. These teeth are milk-teeth, and when the young whale is weaned they do not fall out like a baby's milk-teeth, but disappear by absorption in the jaw, and instead of being replaced by permanent teeth, plates of baleen, or whalebone, are substituted for them.

DON'T RUN THE RISK of your Cold getting well of itself—you may thereby drift into a condition favorable to the development of some latent tendency, which may give you years of trouble. Better cure your Cold at once with the help of Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, a good healing medicine for all Coughs, Sore Lungs and Throats.

THERE is a certain member of the Chicago bar who is noted for his low, weak voice and unobtrusive way. On one occasion the gifted Emery A. Storrs came into the office and inquired for this man. A clerk said he was out.

"Oh, no," said Mr. Storrs, "he is in the inner room."

"How do you know that?" asked the clerk, alarmed by the guess.

"How do I know it?" answered Storrs; "why, it is so damn still."—*Argonaut*.

THE BUFFET CAR, MULTUM IN PARVO.

On the Great Northern is something more than the name implies. Besides the Buffet is the Library, where one can enjoy a visit with the best authors. The latest periodicals are there, with chess and draughts to amuse and instruct. The large windows make it an observatory car, and the wide, easy and comfortable chairs make it more than the regulation parlor car. All this is free to holders of first-class tickets. Is it any wonder that the public appreciate luxury of this kind and travel by the Great Northern?

If you are going to the Pacific coast, ask for tickets reading via Great Northern Railway, from St. Paul, Minn.

THE COLUMBIAN PEACE PLOW.

The plowshare was made of the surplus historic implements of warfare contributed for the casting of the new liberty bell. When it was made known that the voluntary contributions of cherished mementoes of past wars to be cast into a new liberty bell had exceeded the amount needed, an offer came from Malone to turn the remainder of the metal into a peace plow, in fulfillment of the prophecy, "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." The offer was accepted, and the plow now becomes one of the permanent historic creations of the spirit of the Columbian year.

Two of the swords beat into this plowshare came from three children of the same family, with the statement that their grandfathers were killed in the civil war, one on the Union side and the other on the Confederate. They contributed these priceless relics with the hope "that little children might not hereafter find themselves without grandfathers as the result of war." And thus this implement of the tiller of the soil, ennobling symbol of honorable industry and the arts of peace, typifies that time when the nations of the world shall be united in the "parliament of man."—*Breeds' Gazette*.

\$5,000,000 TOBACCO BILL SAVED.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—[Special.]—The Chicago Inter Ocean's Illustrated Supplement, describing the great success and merit of NO-TO-BAC, has made it famous in a day.

Mr. H. L. Kramer, the active man, was seen to-day at his office, 45 Randolph St., and in talking of NO-TO-BAC'S growth, said it was hard work to keep up with the rapidly increasing demand, as every box sold advertised NO-TO-BAC'S merit.

He said, "NO-TO-BAC is not sold on the strength of the thousands and tens of thousands of testimonial statements, but under an absolute guarantee to cure, or money refunded." That made a long story about merit very short, as it absolutely protects the user from physical injury or financial loss. "Why," said he, "NO-TO-BAC will make 100,000 cures this year, and the saving will average \$50.00 for everyone cured, or a grand total of \$5,000,000 saved from going up in smoke and out in spit." NO-TO-BAC is indeed a God-send to the poor man these hard times. According to the testimonies, however, the money saving is the least consideration, for almost everyone reports an improvement of the nervous system, increase in weight, and a revival of physical and mental powers that is indeed miraculous.

Prominent physicians look upon NO-TO-BAC as a great success, and are very free to prescribe it.

Every wholesale drug house in this country and Canada sells NO-TO-BAC, and the retail druggists are pushed to supply the demands of customers; the direct mail demand is immense.

The cost of NO-TO-BAC compared with the results is a small matter, as the saving in a week pays the cost of a cure for a life-time. NO-TO-BAC is sold for \$1.00 a box, or three boxes \$2.50, with a guarantee to cure, or money refunded.

A few extra copies of the Inter Ocean Supplement (8 pages) illustrated in five colors, have been secured and will be mailed for the asking, by addressing The Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago office, 45 Randolph St., New York office, 10 Spruce St., Laboratory, Indiana Mineral Springs, Ind.

FOOD PRODUCTION AND WASTE.

Not many weeks ago I published an article in the Boston *Herald*, describing how any one who had never cooked before, but who would follow the instructions in my book on "The Science of Nutrition," might buy the food and fuel requisite to a full and somewhat varied subsistence in Boston at a cost of \$1 per week.

But let us connect the \$1 per week with the population of the United States. We are now approximating 67,000,000, with a consuming population equal to 60,000,000 adults or more, counting two children of ten or under as one adult. Now then, if the 60,000,000 adults are fed at the standard of only \$1 per week for food and fuel, the bill comes to \$3,120,000,000 a year. Add to that the drink bill, which is now over \$1,000,000,000, and then you have the measure of the question with which we are dealing at its minimum in each part of the problem; namely, \$4,120,000,000.

If you assume, what is probably nearer the fact, that instead of \$1 per week the average expenditure of the rich, the well-to-do, the industrious and the poor comes to \$100 a year for each adult, or nine cents a meal, then your food bill is \$6,000,000,000 a year. Add the drink bill and it becomes \$7,000,000,000. In point of fact, the expenditure for that part of the subsistence of the people, in food only, of this country, that is bought and sold, putting aside that which is consumed where it is produced, probably amounts to \$5,000,000,000 a year. Not less than a quarter of this huge sum is wasted in bad buying and in bad cooking.

Not less than 90 per cent of the product of each year is expended in its production. I do not think we save 10 per cent of our product. The full measure of our annual product is about \$200 per head, and we cannot save for use more than is produced.

When I undertake to show you what you can do with a five-gallon stable bucket for an oven and a hand-lamp for the source of heat in converting either the high-priced or the low-priced food material into the most appetizing and nutritious dishes, I am, in fact, bringing before you a method which, being intelligently practiced by the mass of the people, would remove the chief cause of intemperance and want, would ameliorate the condition of the rich and alleviate the condition of the poor, and would double the profits of the whole community in a prosperous year, or make the profit equal to that which we customarily enjoy, even in such a year of depression and loss as that in which we now are, in which there will be little profit and great loss.—*From Lecture by Edward Atkinson*.

LINE THE ROAD WITH TREES.

The matter of shaded roads is one upon which the movement for road improvement and for forestry preservation may work together. The ends of the latter, or at least a part of them, would certainly be subserved by the planting of trees along mile after mile of country roads. It would add a considerable amount to the forest area of a state, and would thus affect the rainfall to some degree. The added beauty and comfort of highways is an item of no mean importance, and is worth considering in a new country, while the added expense, once the system of road making and mending is established, would be comparatively small. In the prairie states, especially, the plan is eminently desirable, and should be adopted wherever the work for road improvement gets a hold.

"AN OPEN DOOR FOR SAFETY."

This is a German proverb, and refers to the fact that people who have much to lock up are not so safe as those who have not, but in countries where there are many earthquakes the proverb has another meaning.

A gentleman who spent many years in South America, told us that he had learned never, in an earthquake country, to sit in a room with a closed door, because the shock sometimes displaces the walls so much that the doors become jammed or cannot be opened, while the ceilings may fall in and crush the inmates of a house like rats in a trap.

FARMING THAT PAYS.

Get a farm accessible to the best markets, where the climate is temperate all the year round, where there are good schools and churches, and good neighbors, and where land, capable of producing the best sellers, can be purchased at low prices. The farms that pay are in Virginia. Send for catalogue and learn how others have prospered. Address U. L. Truitt, General Traveling Passenger Agent, Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, Cincinnati, Ohio.

NOT A PREPOSSESSING FACE.

"Mama," said little Ethel Fosdick after one of her early visits to the Sunday-school, "did God make everybody?"

"Yes, dearie."

"Did he make Mr. Uglymug?"

"Yes."

"I wouldn't have thought of him."

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.

THE TOWER OF BABEL.

It has been discovered that Nebuchadnezzar reared his temple of Belus on the foundations of the original tower of Babel. An inscription on a cylinder has brought this to light; and the inscription declares that the old tower, on the foundation of which the temple of Belus was built, was begun forty-two generations before the time of Nebuchadnezzar—that is, reckoning between thirty-five and forty years to a generation, as was commonly done, about 1,600 years before—a date that carries us back to the years when men were scattered over the face of the earth by the confusion of tongues.

But we shall give the inscription in full. It was deciphered and translated by Oppert, a man of great learning, sent out by the French government in 1857. It is Nebuchadnezzar's own composition, apparently:

"The temple of the seven lights of the earth—the plaques—the ancient monument of Borsippa was built by an ancient king; since then are reckoned forty-two generations. But he did not reach the summit of it. Men had left it since the days of the flood, which confused their language. Earthquake and thunder had shattered the bricks and thrown down the tiles of the roof. The bricks of the walls were cast down and formed heaps. The great god Merodach has put it into my heart to build it again. I have not altered the place nor disturbed the foundations. In the month of Salvation, on the auspicious day, I pierced the unburned bricks of the walls, and the bricks of the casings with arches. I inscribed the glory of my name on the frieze of the arches."

Is not the discovery of this cylinder, under the rubbish of Babylon, like the raising up of a witness from the dead to attest the truth of the ancient history of the tower of Babel?—*Episcopal Recorder*.

HEALTH A DUTY.

Perhaps nothing will so much hasten the time when body and mind will both be adequately cared for, as a diffusion of the belief that the preservation of health is a duty. Few seem conscious that there is such a thing as physical morality.

Men's habitual words and acts imply that they are at liberty to treat their bodies as they please. Disorder, entailed by disobedience to nature's dictates, they regard as grievances, not as the effects of a conduct more or less flagitious. Though the evil consequences inflicted on their descendants, and on future generations, are often as great as those caused by crime, yet they do not think themselves in any degree criminal.

It is true that in case of drunkenness the viciousness of a bodily transgression is recognized; but none appear to infer that if this bodily transgression is vicious, so, too, is every bodily transgression. The fact is, that all breaches of the laws of health are physical sins. When this is generally seen, then—and perhaps not till then—will the physical training of the young receive all the attention it deserves.—*Herbert Spence*.

WONDERFUL CURES OF CATARRH AND CONSUMPTION BY A NEW DISCOVERY.

Wonderful cures of Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption, are made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Broca Discovery. If you are a sufferer you should write to the New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, and they will send you this new treatment free for trial. State age and all particulars of your disease.

SOME WORD-MEANINGS.

There are comparatively few names for other aggregations of abstract numbers besides the dozen and the score. Two things make a brace, a couple, a duo or duet; three things make a trio, a trinity; eight, according to St. Paul, are a few; thirteen make a baker's dozen.

But taking concrete numbers, we find plenty of such names. Fourteen pounds make a stone; twenty-eight pounds a quarter; a clove of wool is seven pounds; a tod is twenty-eight pounds; a wey is six and one half tons; a sack is two weys, and a last is six sacks.

A SPLENDID FREE OFFER.

We have the best and surest remedy in all the world for the speedy and permanent cure of Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Biliousness, Constipation, Liver Complaint, Sick Headache, Nervous Debility, Rheumatism, and even Consumption in its early stages. We will gladly send a valuable free trial package post-paid to any reader of this paper who will send us his or her name and address. If it does not do what we claim the loss is ours not yours. Write to-day. Address

EGYPTIAN DRUG CO., 29 Park Row, New York.

PICTURE PRODUCTION.

Next to the wonder of this age in electricity, the marvelous advance in the art of picture production must take its place. The extent to which this has been carried is a source of constant surprise as well as admiration. It is all the time advancing in the finish and beauty of its printed work. The counter of our stores at which periodicals are sold, is really a curiosity and one well worth studying. There appears to be nothing on the earth, in the heavens or under the earth which is not reproduced in some form or other of publication, and the number of the representations, which are of remarkable excellence in their fidelity to nature as well as their softness of tone, is a never-ending marvel.—*Boston Herald*.

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By sending 10 cents, stamps or silver, for 3 months' trial subscription to AMERICAN NATION, a charming magazine, you will also receive, FREE, 15 complete pieces of popular music. Address AMERICAN NATION PUB. CO., 325 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

WHY OUR AGENTS SUCCEED.

Our agents succeed because we offer premiums that are in almost universal use—premiums for which there will always be a need. It is possible for an agent to take orders for every one of our premiums in a single family, so universally needed are they. With our premiums an agent has something that cannot help but please some member of every family he calls on. The shrewd agent will here see the great advantage in canvassing with our premiums. If there are lots of possible customers there are bound to be lots of orders. This is an accepted law of trade the world over. If you have tried and failed while working for some one else, don't give up, for you likely worked at a great disadvantage by having premiums that had no merit and were not what the people wanted. Try our premiums. There is a demand for them, and you might as well supply that demand and earn some money as some one else. Some one will do it. Will it be you?

We describe several of our premiums in this issue. Read the descriptions. We know they are excellent, and court investigation. Look at the Atlas—its size, quality, etc.; or at the collection of "World's Fair Views," or the Cook Book, or the spoons. The spoons are a very popular premium. Try them.

Our agent's outfit No. 3 consists of a set of our silver-plated teaspoons, as described on another page, our agent's instruction book, return envelopes, sample copies of our papers and everything complete, ready for the agent to begin the canvass.

Price of outfit to agents, 50 cents. Price of a single outfit and one year's subscription to Farm and Fireside, 75 cents. Price of outfit and Ladies Home Companion one year, \$1. Postage paid by us.

Positively no outfit sent free to any one under any circumstances; but when an agent sends in his first club of ten subscribers at one time, he can include, without charge, one extra name for a yearly subscription to either paper without a premium. In this way the agent secures the OUTFIT FREE. This extra name must be sent in on a special blank, which is sent with each outfit. Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

GOOD LADY or GENTLEMAN TO DO Copying at home. Look Box 1204, Lima, Ohio.

DETECTIVE We want a man in every locality to act as private Detective under instructions. Experience unnecessary. Send stamp for particulars. NATIONAL DETECTIVE BUREAU, Indianapolis, Ind.

GIRLS READ THIS! FREE RINGS.

Do you want one? No. 1, genuine diamond; No. 2, genuine pearl; No. 3, solid gold band beautifully engraved. All are warranted. We only ask a few hours' work introducing our new goods among your friends. Over 20,000 girls have received presents from us the past year. Send for our illustrated circular and see all the premiums we offer. Write at once as we want you NOW. I. M. Association, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

350 \$ CENTS OR LADIES SIZE FREE A fine 14k gold plated watch to every reader of this paper. Cut this out and send it to us with your full name and address, and we will send you one of the elegant, highly jeweled, gold finished watches by express for examination, and if you think it is equal in appearance to any \$25.00 gold watch pay our sample price, \$3.50, and it is yours. We send with the watch our guarantee that you can return it at any time within one year if not satisfactory, and if you sell or cause the sale of six we will give you One Free. Write at once, as we shall send out samples for 60 days only. Address THE NATIONAL MFG & IMPORTING CO., 334 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

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ONE DOLLAR.

The Farm and Fireside and the Ladies Home Companion will be mailed to the same person one year for one dollar, but no other premium will be included in this offer. The Ladies Home Companion has been greatly enlarged and improved, making it more popular than ever with the ladies. The regular subscription price is One Dollar a year, but for the present both of our papers will be sent to one address for one year for One Dollar.

Address FARM AND FIRESIDE, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

Selections.

CHINA ARMING FOR WAR.

NOTWITHSTANDING the enormous population of China, its old-fashioned methods of warfare expose it to the contempt of foreign nations. It was easily beaten by England 50 years ago, and by France still more recently. This last war set the Chinese Government officials to thinking, and ever since they have been drilling and arming on a scale that will soon make the Chinese Empire one to be feared abroad, as it never has been. A correspondent of the Paris *Figaro* writes as follows:

The Chinese art of war has become thoroughly modernized, and tends to rival that of the western nations. The illustrious man who has brought about this radical transformation is the Viceroy Li Hong-Tchang. It is at Tientsin that he is operating. Tientsin is the industrial center of war material, where the agents of Canet, Krupp and the Armstrongs enter into competition for the acceptance of their deadly wares. In the tournaments of these rivals, the Germans have almost always carried off the prizes. At Port Arthur, in the province of Petchili, there are splendid cruisers, battle-ships and gun-boats built with all the recent improvements of naval science. It is noteworthy that a regular fleet has been created there in less than six years.

Since the last Franco-Chinese war the Celestials have opened their eyes. That great, sleepy people has become aroused. Li Hong-Tchang has rudely shaken off their night covering. He has undertaken the task of waking them up thoroughly. He can claim the honor of having created genuine soldiers, organized in European style, and armed with the improved modern rifles.

On visiting the Imperial Military school at Tientsin, I had a chance to see the soldiers manoeuvring. Their exercises had the trade-mark of their training. Their movements, regular, stiff and sturdy, and their heavy and noisy march, with automatic precision, clearly indicated that German instructors had been there. Li Hong-Tchang has reformed the army of China.

CAUSE OF TORNADOES.

From the Gulf of Mexico to the North Pole, and from the lakes to the Rocky mountains is a vast extent of country crossed by no mountain chains to intercept or retard the velocity of air current. The extent of this country is equaled by none on earth. Cold air being heavier to the square inch than warm air, the cold air, when coming in contact with a warm current from the South, always predominates, forcing the warm air into the upper currents.

The cause of cyclones is the meeting of a head wind from the north with a head wind from the south. They meet like two vast armies of men. The pressure at the point of meeting is so great that the air, by compression, becomes heavier to the square inch than wood or the human body, hence either one will float in the same manner that wood will float in water—it floats because it is lighter to the square inch than water. Place water in an ordinary wash-bowl and remove the plug, and it will be observed that in passing out the water forms a circular reaction. Air being a liquid does the same in passing either upwards or downwards, hence the funnel-shaped spout of the cyclone center. When two immense bodies of air coming from opposite directions meet, the only egress is upwards and sidewise, and in passing upwards it forms the funnel the same as water passing out of a wash-bowl downward.

The theory that a cyclone forms a vacuum is absurd. Withdraw air from a glass jar with an air-pump, and a feather within the vacuum formed will drop with the same velocity as lead; or, on the other hand, you can compress air until it is heavier to the square inch than wood, in which case wood will float in the air. The lifting power of a cyclone is caused (1) by the compression or density of the air, and (2) by its velocity. Combining the power of density with that of velocity, which occurs at the center or funnel, no power can resist it. The feeling of suffocation or difficulty in breathing when near the track of a cyclone is caused from the compression of air.—*Minneapolis Tribune*.

BEECHER'S BORROWED BOOK.

Men who would not for the world steal a pin, will steal books; or, what amounts to the same thing, borrow them and forget to return them. When the owner forgets to whom the book has been loaned, the predicament is indeed serious. In such an emergency our readers may like to try the scheme of the famous orator of Plymouth pulpit, thus described by a friend.

We were at a friend's house one evening, when Mr. Beecher came in. As he entered the parlor, and saw us, he said severely, "S., why don't you bring back that Ruskin of mine that I lent you?"

S. colored to the roots of his hair. "Mr. Beecher," he said, "I'll take it to your house to-morrow morning. I would not have kept it so long if you had not told me I might."

To our astonishment, Mr. Beecher burst into a fit of merry laughter. "Found! Found!" he shouted.

We begged him to explain. When he could stop laughing, he said: "I am always ready to lend my books to any one who will make good use of them and bring them back, but I always forget that I have done it. It happened, in this case, that I wanted that volume of Ruskin, but when I went to the shelf for it, it was gone. I knew I must have lent it; but to whom, I could not remember. I began to demand the book of every friend I met, to whom I might have lent it. A dozen, at least, have protested innocence; but at last I've struck the guilty man. I shall know, in future, how to find missing books. The plan works beautifully."

We all laughed, but none so heartily as Mr. Beecher himself. He enjoyed the joke of the affair immensely.

◆◆◆
A little fellow rushed into the street recently to look at a monkey that accompanied an organ-grinder, who was playing in front of an adjoining block. Never having perused the "Origin of Man," he gazed in wonder and admiration a few moments, and then, rushing into the house, he met his grandmother, to whom he addressed this inquiry:

"Grandmother, who made the monkeys?"

"God, my boy," replied the old lady, in her candid way.

"Well," said the excited boy, in rejoinder, "I'll bet God laughed when he got the first monkey done!"

◆◆◆
PRETTY VALENTINES FREE.
We are giving away a package of sweet pretty valentines to all who would like to take our Prize Story Magazine, *COMFORT*, on trial for the next three months. They are the regular *cupid darts* made up with Lithographic lace work. Send 6 cents to *COMFORT*, Box 309, Augusta, Maine, for trial subscription and we will include an assortment of Comics, postpaid.

◆◆◆
A POSTAL CARD Directed to us and signed by yourself will bring you information how you can make big wages in your own community, without capital. Address **LADIES HOME COMPANION**, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT AND APPLIANCES FOR MEN AND WOMEN

CURE MANY DISEASES WHEN ALL OTHER REMEDIES FAIL. GET ONE.  [Trade Mark.] DR. A. OWEN.

A GENUINE CURRENT OF ELECTRICITY Is generated in a battery on the belt, and can be applied to any part of the body. The current can be made mild or strong as the case may require, and is absolutely under control of the wearer at all times.

OUR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE Contains fullest information regarding the cure of Acute, Chronic and Nervous Diseases, with Testimonials with portraits of people who have been cured; Price List and Cuts of Belts and Appliances, and how to order, published in English, German, Swedish and Norwegian Languages. This catalogue will be mailed to any address on receipt of six cents postage.

THE OWEN Electric Belt and Appliance Co. Main Office and Only Factory, THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT BUILDING, 201-211 STATE ST., CHICAGO, ILL. The Largest Electric Belt Establishment in the World.

When writing mention this paper.

The Rocker Washer is warranted to wash 100 PIECES IN ONE HOUR, as clean as can be washed on the washboard. Write for prices and description. **ROCKER WASHER CO.** Liberal inducements to live agents. Ft. Wayne, Ind.

LYON & HEALY, 57 Monroe St., Chicago Will Mail Free their newly enlarged Catalogue of Band Instruments, Uniforms and Equipments. 400 Fine Illustrations, describing every article required by Bands or Drum Corps. Contains instructions for Amateur Bands, Exercises and Drum Major's Tactics, By-Laws, and a Selected List of Band Music. Mention this paper when you write.

AGENTS WANTED to handle the latest, cheapest, simplest and most practical cooker manufactured. Consists of four sections. Each section can be used separately. Food is cooked on a dish. Send \$1.50 for our No. 3, three-gallon cooker with agent's complete outfit. Only one agent in a town. Cooker fits any stove. Write quick. **ROBERT STRONG & CO.** Circulars free. Harrisburg, Pa. Mention this paper when you write.

A WONDERFUL NEW METAL.
SUPERIOR TO SOLID SILVER.

Solid through and through. Will not wear off or tarnish like plated ware and will last a lifetime. We refund money if not as represented. Our goods manufactured of this metal are BEAUTIFUL, ELEGANT and COST ONLY (Express paid):

TEASPOONS, per set of 6, - - - \$.89
TABLE-SPOONS, per set of 6, - - - 1.78
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Cheaper than plated ware. Remit by Postal Note.

LEONARD MFG. CO., 20 Adams St., Chicago. Mention this paper when you write.

Agents for this paper make money, and lots of it.

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IS THE WONDER OF THE AGE.

PLAYS OVER 600 PIECES. SO SIMPLE A CHILD CAN PLAY IT.

OUR GEM ROLLER ORGAN now stands unparalleled in the history of Automatic musical instruments. It is as near the ideal of a perfect home instrument as it is possible to make it. Requiring no knowledge of music, any one can play the most elaborate and difficult pieces, such as *Sacred Music*, *Waltzes*, *Schottische*, *Polkas*, *Quadrilles*, *Medleys*, *Hornpipes*, &c. It is a perfect accompaniment for singing. It will save its cost in one evening in furnishing music at a dance. Its reeds are full size, and furnish as much volume as an ordinary Organ.

SACRED—*Sweet Bye-and-Bye*; *Nearer, My God, to Thee*; *I Need Thee Every Hour*; *Onward, Christian Soldiers*; *Hold The Fort*; *Almost Persuaded*; *Where is My Boy To-night?*; *Bringing in the Sheaves*; *Precious Name*; *Pleyel's Hymn*; *Federal Street*; *Rock of Ages*; *Old Hundred*; *Beulah Land*; *God Be With You*; *Happy Day*; *Gathering Home*; *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*; *He Leadeth Me*; *Ahide with Me*; *Shall We Gather at the River*.

POPULAR—*Old Folks at Home*; *Home Sweet Home*; *Auld Lang Syne*; *Nelly Gray*; *Annie Laurie*; *Waltz—German Hearts*; *Listen to the Mocking Bird*; *Blue Bells of Scotland*; *Little Old Log Cabin*; *Yankee Doodle*; *Bucket, Sunset Schottische*; *The Girl I Left Behind Me*; *Gen. Grant's Grand March*; *Razzle Dazzle Lancers*.

All applicants for organs will please be sure to cut this advertisement out and enclose with it 25 cents, in some form, for six months' subscription to **THE METROPOLITAN AND RURAL HOME**, on receipt of which our full descriptive catalogue, containing list of tunes played by the organ, describing how to apply for same, and the way in which the organ will be sent **FREE**, will be mailed to you. Address **THE METROPOLITAN AND RURAL HOME**, P. O. Box 3045, NEW YORK CITY.

14 KARAT GOLD PLATE

CUT THIS OUT and send it to us with your name and address and we will send you this watch by express for examination. A guarantee for 5 Years and chain and cbarm sent with it. You examine it and if you think it a bargain pay our sample price, \$2.75, and it is yours. It is beautifully engraved and warranted the best time-keeper in the World for the money and equal in appearance to a genuine Solid Gold Watch. Write to-day, this offer will not appear again.

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500 BOOKS, &c., FREE! SEND 10 CTS, and we PRINT your full address on 1000 (2 color) GUMMED LABELS, 500 postpaid to you to stick on your letters, papers, &c., and 500 postpaid to 500 agency firms, publishers and manufacturers, who will mail you 500 sample books, novelties, pictures, magazines, papers, &c. Free with your printed address on each. **TONS OF MAIL** **WANTS AGENTS**. The FREE sample books, papers, &c., I received from the 600 firms mentioned, if bought would cost me \$25 to \$40. Am delighted. **Big Mail Co.** No. 215 Frankford and Girard Aves., Phila., Pa.

RUPTURE CURED FREE! will work a few hours for us. Send stamps (if convenient). **Securehold Co.**, Box D., North Windham, Maine.

For temporary or permanent work, our terms to agents eclipse any offer ever heretofore made by us or any other reliable publishing-house. We are determined our agents shall be well paid. Send at once for our "Special Cash Terms to Club Raisers."

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IS THE WONDER OF THE AGE.

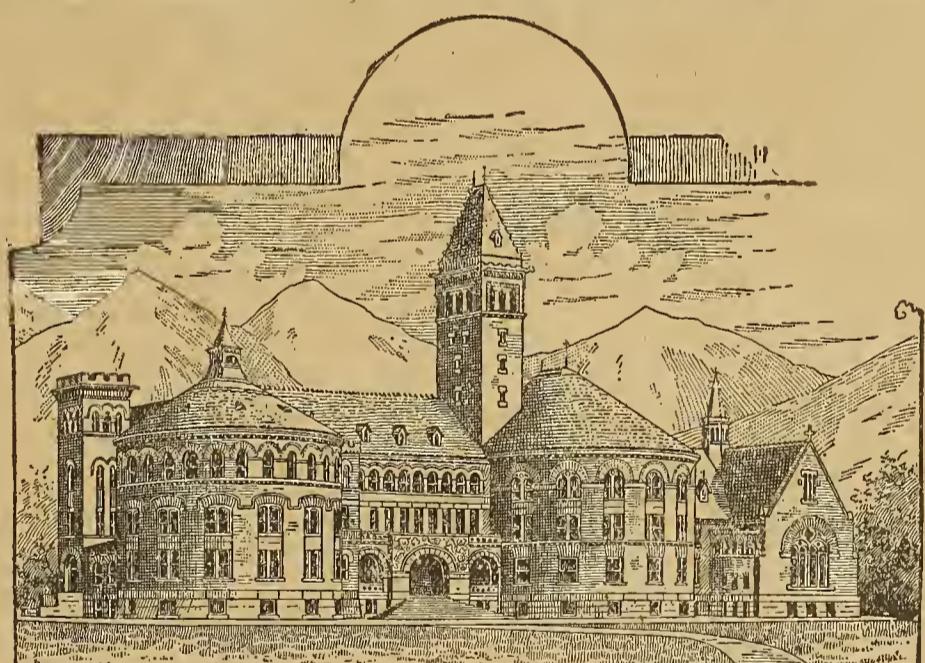
YOU CAN GET IT FREE!

It uses rollers the same as a music box, and it can never wear out. Finished in the very best of style and workmanship it is a home beautifier in every sense. Just think of it! A full reed organ, playing 600 pieces, free, Used in Churches and Sunday Schools. Now is the time to adorn your home with this beautiful instrument. This offer is made to introduce our paper and organs into different parts of the country, and is open to reliable persons of either sex, who will promise to show them to our advantage.

A Few of the Tunes the Organ Plays: **SACRED**—*Sweet Bye-and-Bye*; *Nearer, My God, to Thee*; *I Need Thee Every Hour*; *Onward, Christian Soldiers*; *Hold The Fort*; *Almost Persuaded*; *Where is My Boy To-night?*; *Bringing in the Sheaves*; *Precious Name*; *Pleyel's Hymn*; *Federal Street*; *Rock of Ages*; *Old Hundred*; *Beulah Land*; *God Be With You*; *Happy Day*; *Gathering Home*; *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*; *He Leadeth Me*; *Ahide with Me*; *Shall We Gather at the River*.

POPULAR—*Old Folks at Home*; *Home Sweet Home*; *Auld Lang Syne*; *Nelly Gray*; *Annie Laurie*; *Waltz—German Hearts*; *Listen to the Mocking Bird*; *Blue Bells of Scotland*; *Little Old Log Cabin*; *Yankee Doodle*; *Bucket, Sunset Schottische*; *The Girl I Left Behind Me*; *Gen. Grant's Grand March*; *Razzle Dazzle Lancers*.

All applicants for organs will please be sure to cut this advertisement out and enclose with it 25 cents, in some form, for six months' subscription to **THE METROPOLITAN AND RURAL HOME**, on receipt of which our full descriptive catalogue, containing list of tunes played by the organ, describing how to apply for same, and the way in which the organ will be sent **FREE**, will be mailed to you. Address **THE METROPOLITAN AND RURAL HOME**, P. O. Box 3045, NEW YORK CITY.



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HARRIMAN, TENN.

Smiles.

THE FIRST STEP.

"I have begun to plan my yacht,"
Said Chollie Ferguson.
"I've worked so hard I've really got
The wine list nearly done."

HE WAS A DYER.

Ah, my dear madam," cried the Irish country doctor, turning from the examination of his patient to his agitated wife, "you have called me too late. Your husband is past praying for. See! his hands have already turned blue! Sure, it's mortification already set in!"

"But, doctor," returned the weeping wife, "don't you know that my poor husband is a dyer?"

"A dyer, my dear madam," cried the man of physic, "then, by St. Patrick, it's a good job for him that he is, for I give you my word that if he hadn't been a dyer he would be a dead man."

THE SAILOR'S DEFINITION.

A sailor was descending upon an anthem which gave him much pleasure. His shipmate listened for a time, and then said, "What is a hanthem?"

"Do you mean to say that you don't know what a hanthem is? Well, then, I'll tell yer. If I was to say, 'Ere, Bill, give me that 'andspike,' that wouldn't be a hanthem. But, was I to say: 'Bill, Bill, Bill, give, give, give, give, me, give me, Bill, give me that, Bill, give me that 'andspike, spike, spike, Bill, give, give me that, that 'and, 'andspike, 'andspike, spike, spike, spike. Amen, ahmen, Billgive-methat'andspike, spike. Ahmen,' why, that would be a hanthem."

WHAT IS A BLUSH?

It seems that, unlike an osculatory demonstration, a blush can be scientifically defined. A Cincinnati physician attempts it as follows:

"A blush is a temporary erythema and calorific effulgence of the physiognomy, aetiologized by the perceptiveness of the sensorium when in a predicament of unequilibrium from a sense of shame, anger, or other cause, evanescing in a paresis of the vasomotor nervous filaments of the facial capillaries, whereby, being divested of their elasticity, they are suffused with radiance emanating from an intimated pectoral.

MET HIS MATCH.

A fellow, thinking to appear smart, entered a notion store on Sixth avenue the other day and said to one of the salesladies:

"Ever have any call for husbands here?"

"Oh, yes, occasionally. Are you looking for a market?"

"Yes," said smartly.

"All right. Step right up on the ten-cent counter."—*Texas Siftings*.

MORE PRESSING.

Mrs. Doubtful—"What did you get in the mail?"

Dickey Doubtful—"Only two invitations."

Mrs. Doubtful—"From whom?"

Dickey Doubtful—"One is from Jack Harleman; he wants me to come up sometime. The other is from my tailor; he wants me to come down—right away!"

IN THE COURT ROOM.

"Your honor, and gentlemen of the jury, I acknowledge the reference of counsel of the other side to my gray hair. My hair is gray, and it will continue to be gray as long as I live. The hair of that gentleman is black, and will continue to be black as long as he dyes."

A SURE SIGN.

Tramping Jim—"Say, Mike, there's a house for us. We kin git anything we wants. There ain't a man within a mile of it."

Mellow Mike—"How d'ye know ther ain't no men around?"

Tramping Jim—"Cause th' women is house-cleaning."

MULLIGAN'S UNCERTAINTY.

"Maggie," called Mulligan to his accomplished daughter.

"What do you want?"

"Is the pianny bruk, or are yez playin' that here Wagner's music?"

THE REASON FOR IT.

Fussy—"I can't see why you women wear such long, trailing skirts."

Mrs. Fussy—"To have something to occupy our hands with, of course. Why do you carry a walking-stick when you're not laue?"

One scarcely realizes that we can get vastly better pianos and organs than our fathers could get, and at half the price they paid. Yet why should we wonder? Everything, houses, furniture, clothing and all our belongings are handsomer and better than of old, and cheaper by half. Now, that the old firm of Marchal & Smith, of New York, are selling elegant pianos for \$150 and upwards and organs from \$30 up, why should it surprise us? These reductions are no greater than has been common to all our finest goods. In truth, every home ought to be supplied with a beautiful piano or organ when they can be secured, almost at your own price and terms, by writing to The Marchal & Smith Piano Co., 235 East 21st Street, New York.

LITTLE BITS.

What is done cannot be undone, especially if it is a hard-boiled egg.—*Texas Siftings*.

Employer—"Well, Patrick, which is the bigger fool, you or I?"

Patrick—"Faith, I couldn't say, sor; but it's not meself."

A sweet little four-year-old added this clause to her evening petition the other night: "And please help grandma not to talk so much when the pies get burned."—*Boston Traveller*.

Bridget—"Please, mum, there's a poor man at the door, with a glass eye."

Mistress—"Why, Bridget, what do you suppose we want of a glass eye? Tell him we don't care for it."

The young housewife (to the butcher)—"Have you a nice spring chicken this morning?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"Well, please cut out the croquettes and send them to my address."—*Christian Register*.

"Hello, Jack, I understand you're engaged."

"I am, old man, to the—"

"Ah, yes, I know; to the dearest, sweetest little woman on earth. The one woman calculated to make you a happy home, the embodiment of your ideal, the dream of your youth!"

"Say, old man, how—how did you ever find that out? You—you don't know her, do you?"—*Harper's Bazaar*.

It so happened that several days ago a certain well-known lawyer, who, for narrative purposes shall be nameless, came into the official presence of a learned judge, whose cognomen shall likewise be discreetly veiled.

The lawyer did not arrive alone. He was accompanied by a large number of previously encompassed drinks, and, in the language of the pave, a symphonic "branuigan" was concealed about his person.

"Mr. ——," remarked the Solon, "I am astonished to see you in such a condition."

"Dishun!" sighed the lawyer, "Wazzer matter?"

"There is no need of explaining, sir."

"Yesher is. You 'tack my eondishun-wazzer matter wish it?"

"To be plain, Mr. ——, you are very drunk."

"Y'r honor," responded the inebriate one, after a moment's pause, "I've been prae'sing here for fifteen years, un'that's the first 'eect decishun I ever heard in this court."

It cost him something for contempt.

Once during the argument in a lawsuit, in which Lincoln represented one party, the lawyer on the other side was a good deal of a glib talker, but not reckoned as deeply profound or much of a thinker. He would say anything to a jury which happened to enter his head. Lincoln, in his address to the jury, referring to this, said:

"My friend on the other side is all right, or would be all right, were it not for the peculiarity I am about to chronicle. His habit—of which you have witnessed a very painful specimen in his argument to you in this case—of reckless assertions and statements without grounds, need not be imputed to him as a moral fault, or as telling of a moral blemish. He can't help it. For reasons which, gentlemen of the jury, you and I have not the time to study here, as deplorable as they are surprising, the oratory of the gentleman completely suspends all action of his mind. The moment he begins to talk, his mental operations cease. I never knew of but one thing which compared with my friend in this particular. That was a small steamboat. Back in the days when I performed my part as a keel boatman, I made the acquaintance of a trifling little steamboat which used to bustle and puff and wheeze about the Sangamon river. It had a five-foot boiler and a seven-foot whistle, and every time it whistled it stopped."

A \$65 SEWING MACHINE FREE.

Our \$65 Alva Sewing Machine now sold by us at \$8.25 to \$22.50 will be placed in your home to use without cost of one cent to you. Cut out this advertisement and send to ELY M'F'G CO., Dept. 25 Chicago, Ill.

UNCLETOM'S CABIN has sold for \$2.00. I send it and **11 P's Magazine**, 6 months for only 10c., post-p'd. E. F. NASON, 132 Church St., N. Y.

TEN ets, name, or name, town & state, 15c. Self pencil stamp **NOT THE CHEAP KIND** Our Pot stamping outfit has 110 letters & figures & makes any name, only 13c. AGENTS LATEST GOODS. Stamps of all kinds. Rubber Stamp Co., Factory T 17, New Haven, Conn.

AGENTS LOOK and Farmers with no experience make \$2.50 an hour during spare time. A. D. BATES, 164 W. Robbins Ave., Covington, Ky., made \$21 one day, \$81 one week. So can you. **Proofs and catalogue free.** J. E. SHEPARD & Co., Cincinnati, O.

\$3 a Day Sure. Send us your address and we will show you how to make \$3 a day; absolutely sure; we furnish the work and teach you free; you work in the locality where you live. Send us your address and we will explain the business folly; remember we guarantee a clear profit of \$3 for every day's work; absolutely sure; don't fail to write to-day.

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Will \$500 Help You Out? If so, can have it! We offer you the Sole Agency for an article that is Wanted in Every Home and Indispensable in Every Office, something that SELLS AT SIGHT. Other articles sell rapidly at Double the Price, though not answering to the purpose so well. You can make from \$500 to \$700 in three months, introducing it, after which it will bring A Steady, Liberal Income, if properly attended to. Ladies do as well as men, in town or country. Don't Miss this Chance. Write at once to J. W. JONES, Manager, Springfield, Ohio.

I am afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Thompson's Eye-Water

AGENTS make big money. Catalogue quick selling household articles free. Cline Mfg. Co., 75 W. Wash. St. Chicago.

WONDERFUL! Send 10 cents to FRANK HARRISON, Boston, Mass., and see what you will get.

RUBBER STAMPS. Best made. Immense Catalogue free to agents. The G. A. HARPER MFG. CO., Cleveland, O.

WE want you to distribute circulars, samples, etc., in your locality for our agents of big advertisers. \$2 to \$5 per thousand. CASH PAID. No canvassing. Enclose stamp. DISTRIBUTING BUREAU, P. O. Box 1925, New York City.

\$5.00 per thousand paid for distributing circulars. Good men wanted in your country. We pay cash. Give reference. Enclose stamp. P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Me.

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LADIES We give permanent position in every country on salary. No canvassing. Stamp. L. A. CLARK CO., Bridgeport, Conn.

194 LATEST SONGS WORDS and MUSIC, 6 Tricks, 12 Pictures Pretty Girls, and Magazine, all for 14 one-cent postage. H. BELL & CO., Station A, Boston, Mass.

26 Stylish Visiting Cards, heavy quality, name and address neatly engraved 10c. 6 packs 50c. Agents sample outfit, 2c. ENGRAVING CO., Northfield, Conn.

SEND for free Catalogue of Books of Amusements, Speakers, Dialogues, Calisthenics, Fortune Tellers, Dream Books, Debates, Letter Writers, Etiquette, etc. DICK & FITZGERALD, 24 Ann St., New York.

BOYS AND GIRLS who wish to make money when out of school; send name and we will tell you how. No money wanted. STAYNER & CO., Providence, R. I.

LADY WANTED at home, to assist us preparing addresses, also other writing and office work. \$25 to \$50 per week entire year. If convenient enclose stamp. WOMAN'S CO-OPERATIVE TOILET CO., MILWAUKEE, WIS. (no. 100)

AGENTS WANTED ON SALARY or COMMISSION, to handle the New Patent Chemical Ink Erasing Pencil. Agents making \$50 per week. Monroe Eraser Mfg. Co., X 98, LaGrosse, Wis.

Cuts a Circle. **No Good** Kitchen complete without a Chicago Rotary Biscuit & Cake Cutter. They sell at sight. AGENTS WANTED Samples of round and square mailed for 25cts. Sidway Mfg. Co., 32-40 S. Jefferson St., Chicago.

GOLD-SILVER-NICKEL PLATING A trade easily learned; costs little to start. I will furnish outfit and give work in part payment. Circumstances change. F. LOWEY, 191 Duffield St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

YOU Want to Make Money? **FREE!** 1000 ARTICLES CHAS. LUBRECHT, 195 Pearl St., N. Y.

AWOMAN'S SUCCESS For two years \$25 a week at Home. Instructions FREE to lady readers. Send stamp. (No humbug). MRS. J. A. MANNING, Box 15, Anna, Ohio.

FREE TO EVERY AGENT! A wonderful Wire Puzzle sent absolutely free; also catalog of finest agents goods ever offered. Write quick. Ladies goods also. CASSGREEN M'FG CO., Chicago, Ill.

IF YOU WANT WORK that is pleasant and profitable send us your address immediately. We teach men and women how to earn from \$5.00 per day to \$3,000 per year without having had previous experience, and furnish the employment at which they can make that amount. Capital unnecessary; a trial will cost you nothing. Write to-day. Mention this paper. E. C. ALLEN & CO., Box 1013, Augusta, Me.

AGENTS COIN Money selling Beveridge's Automatic Cooker. Latest and best cooking utensil ever invented. Sells at sight. One Agent sold over 1700 in one town. One sample Cooker free to good agents. Advertising matter furnished. For full particulars address W. E. BEVERIDGE, BALTIMORE, Md.

THE CRUSADER IN GREAT BRITAIN. Mother Stewart's new book, "The Crusader in Great Britain," is now out. It is a deeply interesting account of her work and its results in that country. Is written in the same lively and fascinating style as is "Memories of the Crusade," which Henry Faxon declares is his favorite book. It is full of valuable information and interesting incidents in her work, and should be in every home. Best of terms to agents, who will find it a taking book. Write at once for terms. Address M. CAMPBELL, Springfield, O.

Mention this paper.

TO THE UNEMPLOYED. You make \$75 to \$250 a Month.

Working for us in any locality. Will pay a salary or commission (as you prefer) and all expenses; money deposited in bank to cover same when started. If you are out of work or even wish to better your condition, we have something entirely new to offer, and if you follow our instructions you cannot fail to meet with success; the people will have our goods in, matter how hard the times. Our agents are reporting big sales everywhere from Maine to Mexico, all that is required is a little pluck and push and success is yours. Why not be idle; this offer may be your stepping stone to a fortune. We furnish sample outfit free. If you care to investigate write today for particulars before all valuable territory is taken. Address Standard Silver Ware Co., Boston, Mass.

Mention this paper when you write.

WANTED AGENTS To Sell "SCENES FROM EVERY LAND."

THE BOOK OF THE CENTURY; over 500 Magnificent Photographic Views, size 11 1/2 by 14 1/2 inches. Introduction by GEN. LEW. WALLACE, Author of "Ben-Hur."

Descriptions by Edward Everett Hale, D. D., Russell Conwell, D. D., LL. D., Ilion, Wm. C. P. Breckinridge, Henry Watterson and other talented writers. Ahead of all competitors, larger views, finer photographs, twice as many of them, more handsomely bound, and lower in price; sells at sight to people who never bought a book in their lives; agents of other books throwing their outfit away and beginning for territory; beautiful sample views free; absolute control of field; goods on credit; \$6.00 to \$20.00 a day readily earned; success guaranteed.

MAST, CROWELL & KIRKPATRICK,

Springfield, Ohio, Sole Publishers.

Or at the rate of \$2000 a year profit is what Mrs. Mast will make.

Gleanings.

HEAT AND LIGHT OF THE SUN.

So far as our present knowledge goes it would seem that the brightness of any sun-like body is to be attributed solely to the transformation in some fashion of mechanical power into heat. To take our own sun as an example. It is now an assured doctrine that the heat so necessary for our welfare is sustained by the gradual contraction of the solar volume. The energy available for transformation into heat in this process seems sufficient to supply the radiation of the sun, not only for ages such as those we reckon in the human period, but even throughout a lapse of time so vast as that which geology demands for the formation of the earth's crust, writes Sir Robert Ball, in the *Fortnightly Review*. But it is certain that the quantity of possible light and heat to be dispensed by the sun is limited in amount. The sun cannot shine on forever. A time must assuredly come when the orb, at present so brilliant, will have no more potency for the radiation of light than is at present possessed by the earth or the moon. In like manner it can be shown that the materials constituting the sun have not always been luminous. We cannot, indeed, say with certainty by what influence their brightness was originally kindled. It probably arose from a collision, or an approach to a collision, between two dark masses which happened to come to an encounter with enormous velocities in their progress through space. It is, however, plain that the ages during which the sun has been brilliant, form only an incident, so to speak, in the infinite history of that quantity of matter of which the solar system is constituted.

Notwithstanding the millions or thousands of millions of years which that matter has existed, it has, perhaps, only once become so heated, owing to the circumstances which we may describe as accidental or casual, as to have acquired the ample light-dispensing power of the sun. It is, however, possible that such periods of light-radiating capacity should have occurred more than once; they may possibly have occurred several times throughout the ages of time past. Nor is it likely that the last phenomena of this kind have yet arrived. The sun, after the lapse of uncounted years, will lose all its heat and pass into a black, dark mass. In that form it may endure for an epoch so protracted that the spell during which it has acted as the luminary to our system, will appear but a moment in comparison with the dark ages which succeeded the solar splendor. But we can conceive that the darkness, which is the doom of our system, need not necessarily be eternal so far as its materials are concerned; it may be that again in the course of its wanderings through space the tide of chance may at length bring the dark and tremendous globe so near some other orb that another collision should take place with appalling vehemence. The solid materials shall again become transformed into a stupendous glowing nebula, and then, in the course of the tedious contraction of this nebula, another protracted period of brilliance will diversify the career of the great body, and may last long enough for the evolution of planets and of the whole races of highly organized creatures. The essential point of our present consideration must not be misunderstood. A little reflection will show that any periods of brilliance must be regarded as exceptional periods in the history of each body.

CELESTIAL DISTANCES.

Sir Robert Bell, the English astronomer, has been giving a popular series of lectures in London, in which he has endeavored to bring within the comprehension of his hearers, some practical idea of enormous space. Referring to the fact that the stars that we see, apart from the planets of our solar system, are suns, he said that the nearest star to the earth was Alpha Centauri, which was only visible in the southern heavens. Now, to say that this was 2,000,000,000,000 miles away gives only a confused idea of distances, as half or quarter of this sum would seem quite as great in the aggregate as this appears, because the unit of distance is too small to easily popularize the broad conception. To say that the star in question is quite 200,000 times as far away from the earth as the sun, is equally incomprehensible. Some other and larger 'yardsticks' must be used when these tremendous spaces are measured off.

Sir Robert Bell takes as the unit, the distance that electricity can travel in a second of time, that is, 180,000 miles, or seven times around the earth. While the electric current, under proper conditions, could reach the moon in a little more than a second, and could arrive at the sun in about eight minutes, it would require fully three years of time to traverse the distance between the earth and the nearest of the stars. But beyond these are other stars or suns so far off that the distance between the earth and Alpha Centauri seems insignificant in comparison. Sir Robert Bell said: "There are stars so remote that if the glad tidings of that first Christmas in Bethlehem, nineteen centuries ago, had been disseminated through the universe by telegraph messages, speeding at the rate of 180,000 miles a second, the time that has elapsed since the event would not have been sufficient to enable the message to reach them." Some idea of the immensity of the universe can be formed by realizing that a speed that would carry one from the earth to the moon in a second, would need to be maintained for thousands of years to reach some of the stars that we see each clear night above our heads.—*Young Men's Era*.

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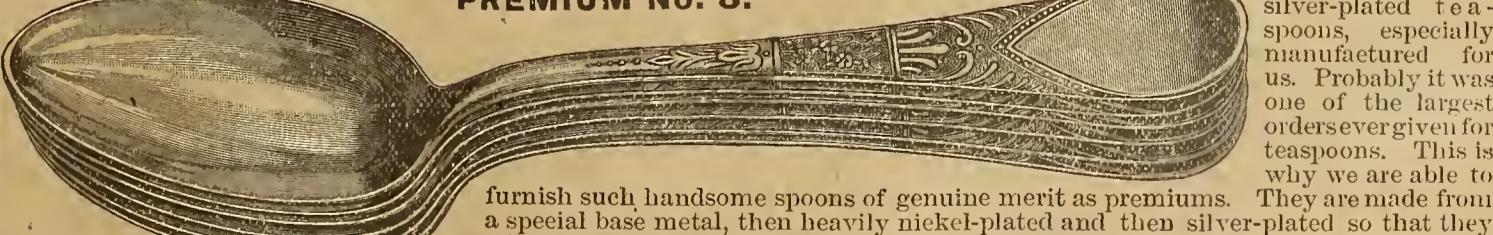
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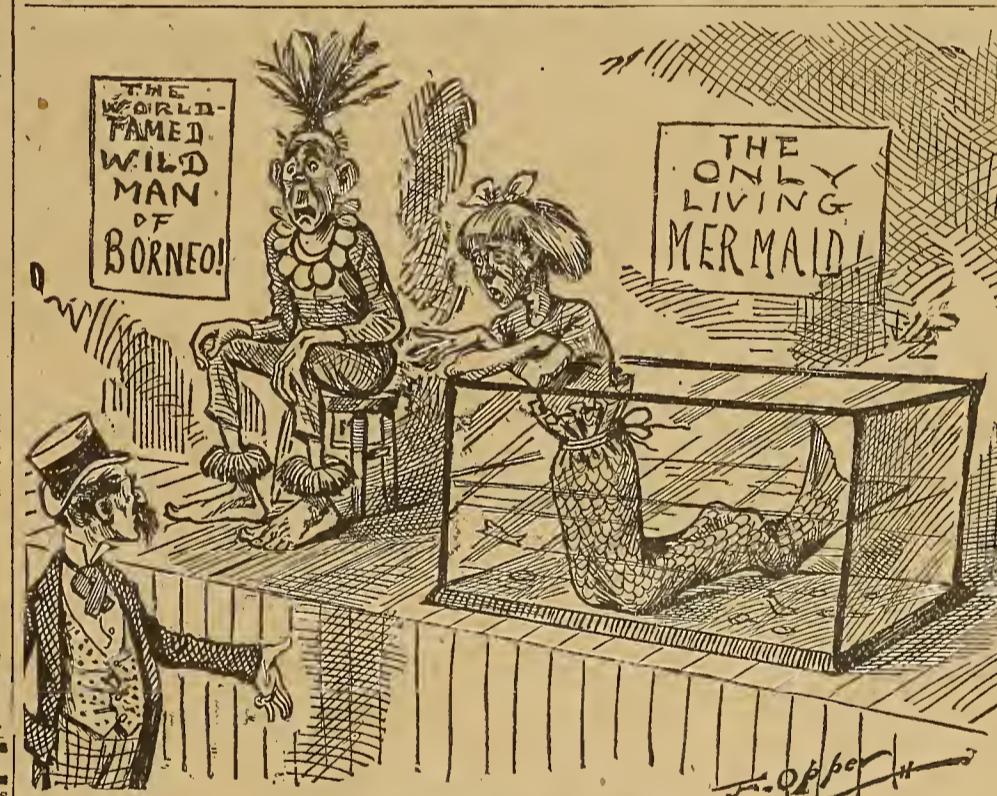
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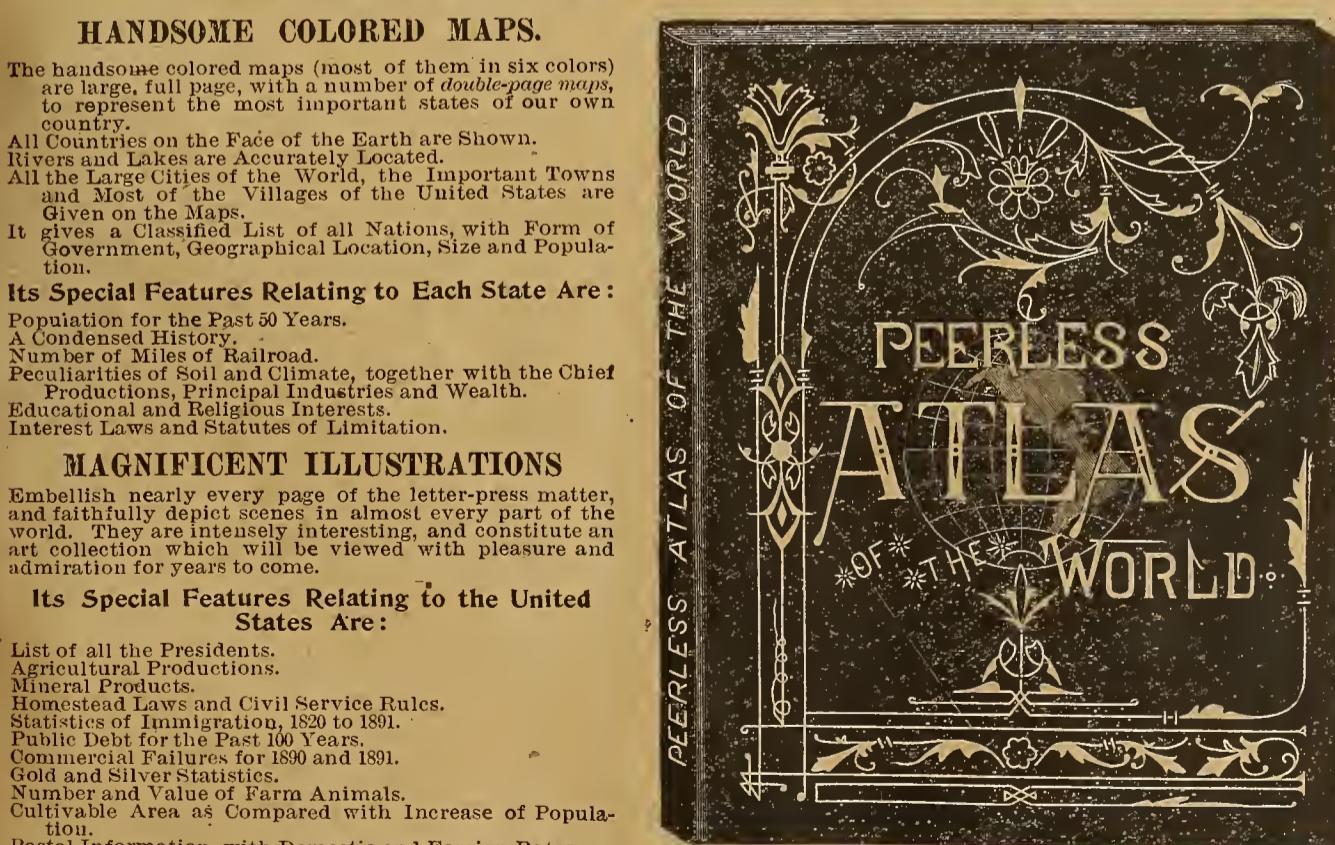
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Topics of the Time.

INCOME TAX.

A tax is an enforced contribution levied on persons, property or income for public use. An income tax is a direct tax upon the ascertained annual income of the person taxed. Theoretically, on the assumption that each person's ability to pay is exactly proportioned to his annual income, it is the most equitable of taxes. Practically, it does not prove to be so. The ability to pay taxes is not in proportion to annual income. An income tax of one per cent on a wage-earner, whose total yearly earnings are required for the support of himself and family, is much more burdensome than one of fifty per cent on a millionaire.

This disparity of power to pay taxes in proportion to annual income is recognized wherever governments resort to this kind of a tax, and incomes below a given amount are exempted. That such exemptions are necessary invalidates the claim that an income tax is equitable.

The United States levied an income tax from 1861 to 1872. It was one of the first of the war taxes repealed. It is now proposed to resort to this unpopular kind of a tax again. To help make up the deficiency provided for in the Wilson tariff bill, the majority of the ways and means committee of Congress has reported in favor of a two-per-cent tax on incomes, exempting those below \$4,000.

The rates and schedules of a protective tariff measure, like the McKinley law, may be so arranged that a required amount of revenue will be raised from duties on imports. The same may be done with a non-protective tariff, or tariff for revenue only, such as was indorsed by the Chicago platform of 1892. Even a nondescript tariff measure may be made to produce the required amount of revenue. There is no necessity for a deficiency in any kind of a tariff measure. Therefore, the deficiency in the Wilson tariff measure must have been purposely and specially provided for that income and other internal revenue taxes might be levied. For twenty years sufficient revenue has been raised without an income tax. It is not necessary now. The object of levying it is other than the raising of revenue for the federal government. What the real object is does not now appear. It may be an attempt to use the tax system to punish the man who has a good income, or it may be the first of a series of socialistic measures for the government distribution of private wealth.

Of the personal income tax, Chairman Wilson, in the January *North American Review*, says: "Aside from the very natural objection of those who might have to pay such a tax, its administration is nec-

essarily accompanied by some exasperating and some demoralizing incidents. Our people have so long and so generally been free from any public scrutiny into their personal incomes, and even from personal contact with federal tax collectors, that they resent the approach of either. Moreover, like the personal property tax, which is so universally evaded, a personal income tax would easily lend itself to fraud, concealment and perjury, and prove, as Mr. Mills said, a tax upon conscience. And finally, in a country of the large geographical dimensions of the United States, it would be difficult to put into smooth and effective working order the necessary machinery for its thorough collection."

LOSS BY THE PANIC.

The year 1893 is marked by a record of financial and industrial disturbance and disaster in the United States that is unparalleled in history. This record is not yet completed. The end is not in sight. How many more months must pass before this period of depression is closed cannot be predicted. The money loss cannot be accurately estimated. From the beginning of the panic to the present time, it has certainly amounted to more than a thousand million dollars, or more than one third of the national debt at the close of the civil war. Before the period is closed, the loss of wages to unemployed labor alone will amount to half this moderate estimate of the total loss. The wages of a million men at two dollars a day for two hundred and fifty days amount to five hundred million dollars.

In a recent address, Hon. David A. Wells illustrated the enormous losses of the panic by the following particulars:

"The national treasury, of late years so overflowing with surplus revenues that millions of dollars (\$21,458,718 in 1890 and 1891) were given for the privilege of simply anticipating the payment of debts funded at low rates of interest, now faces the certainty, independent of any change in the methods of rates of taxation, of an annual deficit of necessary revenue of something like \$30,000,000; a decrease in the gross earnings of the railroads of the country from May to October inclusive of at least \$30,000,000, of which \$12,000,000, or eliminating the world's fair business, \$20,000,000, occurred in the month of August alone. The loss occasioned by destruction of property by fires in 1893, in excess of that experienced in the previous year, and undoubtedly in a large degree the result of incendiarism contingent on hard times, is estimated at \$25,000,000. Between May 4th and July 12th deposits to the amount of \$194,000,000 were withdrawn from the national banks alone. Between May 4th and October 3d these withdrawals amounted to \$378,000,000—\$299,000,000 by individuals and \$79,000,000 by banks and bankers. And if to this sum the withdrawals which occurred in like proportion from savings banks, state banks, trust companies and private banks be added, the aggregate would exceed \$500,000,000. To meet this drain the national banks were compelled to call in loans to the extent of \$318,000,000, and all the other banking institutions of the country pursued a similar policy. This concurrent action probably finds no exact parallel in all economic history."

"Finally, in order to make this summary complete, there must be added the losses incurred by the owners of shops and factories, who were obliged to suspend operations, and, above all, by the thousands who were unable to earn wages."

THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

The Hawaiian affair promises to continue a live question in politics for some time. What Congress will do about it is uncertain, but it is certain that it will have a great deal to say about it. After the reading of the president's special message, the senate took action that significantly indicated its opinion of the value of the Blount report. It ignored the message as a basis for action, and adopted, without division, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on foreign relations shall inquire and report whether any, and if so, what irregularities have occurred in the diplomatic or other intercourse between the United States and Hawaii in relation to the recent political revolution in Hawaii, and to this end said committee is authorized to send for persons and papers and to administer oaths to witnesses.

As provided for by this resolution, a subcommittee is now engaged in making an exhaustive and genuine investigation into the facts. It will require several weeks to complete this inquiry. Then the report will be given to the senate and the public. The truth will come out at last.

Meanwhile, the affair has taken another turn in Hawaii. Lilioukalani has finally offered to accept the conditions imposed by President Cleveland. Mr. Willis, in accordance with his instructions, has requested the members of the Provisional Government to step down and out and allow the monarchy to be restored. The Provisional Government has firmly refused, as it was evident from the first that it would. What next?

There is no diplomacy without guns, and Congress is not going to trust diplomatic blunderers with guns. That private enterprise, kept so long in the dark from the American people, the conspiracy of restoration, has been checkmated.

THE LABOR PROBLEM.

One of the foremost topics of the day is the labor problem. But it is not the same problem of a year ago. It does not relate to less hours of labor, higher wages, recognition of organizations, or to harmony between employers and their workmen. It is a question of finding work for the unemployed and means of support for their families. There are no quarrels now over the rates of wages. Employment is the first consideration. Whoever has work to offer finds no difficulty in coming to an agreement with the seekers after work on the rate of wages. Work at fair wages commands a premium in the labor market.

This change of labor problems finds few better illustrations than in the affairs at Homestead. One year and a half ago a change in the schedules that reduced the wages of a few very highly paid workmen brought on a great strike and a terrible riot. A few weeks ago the same iron and steel mills started up with a forty-per-cent reduction in wages that affected a majority of the men employed, and they all seemed glad of the opportunity to get work.

The unemployed are so numerous and the needs of their families so urgent, that many cities are trying to provide work on public improvements. Public employment is an extraordinary measure, but it is an extraordinary emergency that has called for it. It is a temporary means of relieving distress. The permanent relief must and will come in time from private employment. Whoever provides work now for the unemployed is the greatest of public benefactors.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

In his annual report, Secretary Carlisle makes a proposition to increase the interest-bearing debt of the United States. He asks Congress for permission to issue \$200,000,000 bonds, bearing three per cent interest. There are times when it is absolutely necessary for the government to issue bonds to raise money for immediate needs or to strengthen its credit. Such occasions are extraordinary.

Our government has not found it necessary to increase its national debt since the resumption of specie payment. What is the emergency that calls for it now? It is a prospective emergency. There is an unavoidable fear that under the proposed new tariff and internal revenue laws the receipts of the federal government will fall far below its necessary expenditures. In such a case it would be very convenient for the secretary of the treasury to have the unquestioned authority to issue enough bonds to make up the deficiency. But it is contrary to plain business sense to deliberately provide for such a deficiency. It is financing of the very worst sort. The cost of running the government would necessarily be increased by the amount of interest paid on the bonds issued. There is no necessity for Congress to pass revenue laws that will not yield sufficient revenues to meet the expenses of the government.

A proposition to increase the public debt does not meet with very favorable consideration by the people who are taxed to pay the interest. Capitalists favor such bond issues, because they provide opportunity for safe investment. Let them invest in productive enterprises that give employment to labor.

SHORT COURSES IN AGRICULTURE.

Many agricultural colleges now offer short winter courses in agriculture. They are doing all they can to widen the opportunities for young men to get instruction in agriculture. The courses are carefully arranged and the instruction is practically free. Many have attended these winter schools of agriculture with profit and pleasure. More will do so. There never was a time when there was greater need for young farmers to have all the instruction in agriculture they can possibly get. The winter school of agriculture cannot give them all they need, but what it does give them is most valuable. The educational work of the school does not stop when the students return home. Not a few will continue the study, reading and investigation commenced while in attendance at school. That is one of the objects of the short course in agriculture, to start the young farmer in the right road. Through these short courses the agricultural colleges have gained students for the full, regular courses.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZE-FIGHT.

Governor Mitchell, of Florida, will deserve and receive the hearty commendation of all citizens who have the public welfare at heart, if he succeeds in his efforts to prevent the prize-fight between Corbett and Mitchell from taking place within the limits of his state. A brutal prize-fight, with its degrading and demoralizing accompaniments, is a deep disgrace to any community. Florida cannot afford to be disgraced by prize-fights. Desirable immigration and capital do not flow into states that tolerate such things, particularly when they are done in direct violation of state laws.

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We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Gastric Soda Is the new name of one of the old butter-increaser frauds. Let it alone.

Irrigation. The United States geological survey has completed an investigation of the water resources of the arid regions. It reports that the supply is insufficient to irrigate more than one tenth of the government lands.

Wheat. The area of winter wheat is only seven percent less than that of last year. The condition of winter wheat is better than it was a year ago. The price will be higher—when nearly all of the wheat is out of the farmers' hands.

Farm One of the best economies that can be practiced on Economy. The farm is the saving of barn-yard manure. There is an extravagant waste of this article. And it is a kind of economy that does not make hard times worse by depriving some one of work and wages.

The School The plans for a division Question. on a denominational basis have been checked. Public opinion is too strong against it. From every corner of the land came emphatic protests against this insidious attempt to undermine the American school system. Public efforts of the movement have been dropped, and some of the promoters are busy denying that they ever had anything to do with it.

Crop The department of agriculture estimates the Statistics. area and product of the principal crops of 1893 as follows:

	Acres.	Bushels.	yield per acre.
Corn.....	72,036,645	1,619,496,181	22.5 bu.
Wheat.....	34,629,418	396,131,725	11.4 "
Oats.....	27,273,033	638,854,850	23.4 "
Rye.....	2,038,485	26,555,446	13.0 "
Barley.....	3,220,371	69,869,495	21.7 "
Buckwheat.....	815,614	12,132,311	14.9 "
Potatoes.....	2,605,186	183,034,202	72.7 "
Tobacco.....	702,592	483,023,963	68.7
			Tons. Tons.
Hay.....	49,613,634	65,766,159	1½

Robber For several years political Barons. to say about "robber barons." Who are they? By taking off the duties on wool and leaving forty per cent duties on woolen goods, the framers of the Wilson tariff bill have made it appear that the most notorious robber barons are the wool growers. But they are not. Free wool will not make a twenty-five dollar suit of clothes fifty cents cheaper to the purchaser. The

barons the tariff tinkers are after are the woolen manufacturers. Free wool, with protected woolens, is a strategic movement.

The object is to array wool growers against woolen manufacturers. The manufacturers are expected to assist placing wool on the free list, so that they can get cheaper "raw" material." As soon as that is done the wool growers will be expected to help put woolens on the free list. Free wool first, free woolens next, is the plan of the campaign.

The Russian Thistle. The troublesome weed known as the Russian thistle, or saltwort, has recently acquired a national reputation. Senator Hansbrough, of North Dakota, has introduced a bill in Congress to appropriate a million dollars for its extermination. It is a noxious weed of great capacity for mischief, and without a single known redeeming quality. Unlike the Scotch thistle, it is not useful even for emblematic purposes. It is spreading rapidly in the Northwest, and farmers are seriously alarmed over it. It is charged with four million dollars' damages for last year. The Wisconsin experiment station, Madison, has issued a bulletin which gives full information about this undesirable foreigner.

Gothenburg System. The fifth special report of the United States commissioner of labor relates to the various plans of regulating and restricting the liquor traffic in Norway and Sweden. The so-called "Gothenburg system" is practically government control of the traffic in distilled liquors. The retail business is conducted by licensed companies under strict regulations. All the profits are expended for the relief of society, the element of private gain being entirely eliminated from the business.

The report represents a full, careful investigation covering the history of Scandinavian liquor legislation and the establishment of the Gothenburg system, the liquor laws of Norway and Sweden, and the company system in operation, its results, advantages and disadvantages.

Four New Types of Fruit. A bulletin of the Cornell University agricultural experiment station, Ithaca, N. Y., gives candid descriptions of four new types of fruit tested at the station. These are *Prunus Simonii*, or apricot plum, *Crandall currant*, *Wineberry* and dwarf *Juueberry*. "It should be remembered," says Prof. Bailey, "that wholly new types of fruit are not to be measured by existing standards. They are not introduced, as a rule, for the purpose of supplanting other fruits, but with the intent that they shall add variety to our fruit lists, and occupy places which are now vacant. If they fill an unsupplied demand, or if they create a new demand, then they may be counted successful." He thinks these fruits have suffered from injudicious praise and exaggeration of their merits.

Horticultural and Entomological Editor. The United States civil service commission will hold an examination on

January 24th, to fill a vacancy in the position of horticultural and entomological editor, department of agriculture, at a salary of \$1,400 per annum. The subjects of the examination will be horticulture, economic entomology, French and German, essay writing and abstracting. Arrangements may be made to examine applicants in some of the large cities outside of Washington, if applications are filed in time. Those who desire to compete should write to the civil service commission, Washington, D. C., and obtain an application blank. Men only will be admitted to the examination, and residents of the District of Columbia will not be admitted.

The above notice is from the department of agriculture office of experiment stations.

Mutual Admiration Society. Secretary Morton has published a second edition of his Chicago addresses. This second edition is illuminated by some additions. On the cover pages of the pamphlet are published a few selections from the many unfavorable criticisms and Grange resolutions that have been passed on the secretary and his diatribe on farmers' organizations. To offset these, there appears on

the first page of the cover one of a few favorable comments that have been made. It reads as follows: "I have read pretty carefully—portions of them aloud to my family—both of your addresses at Chicago. I am a better judge of the first one, but so far as I am able to judge, both are as clear as a bell, sound as a nut and as lively as a play.—Arthur L. Perry, *Professor of Political Economy, Williams College.*" On the ninth page of the pamphlet appears the secretary's testimonial to the professor. He says: "It constantly illustrates the terse truthfulness of that greatest sentence in modern political economy, evolved by Prof. Arthur L. Perry, of Williams college, that 'A MARKET FOR PRODUCTS IS PRODUCTS IN MARKET.'" A fair exchange of compliments is no robbery.

Spurry. Is a new forage plant that is recommended for improving thin, sandy land. In some parts of Europe it has been grown for hay and pasture, and for renovating the soil. It is now being tested in different parts of this country. The Michigan experiment station gives a favorable report of experiments with this plant on the sandy soils of the jack-pine plains. In bulletin No. 68 it says: "Spurry still holds a high rank, and the crop is rapidly spreading in this region. With many farmers it yields a large amount of forage, and they find it a profitable crop to feed stock. The wonderful seed production gives it a good foothold in soils where once grown. The introduction of this crop is a permanent benefit to jack-pine belt."

The Ohio Experiment Station. Makes the following statement relative to appropriations requested for necessary improvements on its farm:

The board of control of the Ohio agricultural experiment station has asked the general assembly this winter for an appropriation of \$75,000 for the erection of buildings on its farm at Wooster. This is a large sum, and the taxpayers of the state are entitled to a full explanation of the use which it is proposed to make of it.

Two thirds of this amount is required for the erection of the principal office, or administration building, of the station. The plans for this building contemplate a plain, fire-proof, stone structure 50x70 feet in size, and two stories high, with a one-story wing about 30x50 feet. This, it will be seen, is no larger than many a dwelling-house, and far smaller than many a farm barn. The cost of the building will be doubled by making it fire-proof; but when it is considered that the books, records and collections of the station are many of them of such a character that it would be impossible to duplicate them in case of fire, it seems the part of wisdom to adopt this style of building. No less than eight American experiment stations have already been destroyed by fire, involving in some cases irreparable loss.

The contents of a farmer's barn, the stock of a merchant or the machinery of a manufacturer may always be replaced—often to great advantage—and in such cases insurance is cheaper than fire-proofing; but in the case of the most valuable part of the records and collections of the experiment station no insurance can cover the loss.

Seventeen thousand dollars is asked for the construction of barns. The plans contemplate one large barn, with stabling for about sixty head of cattle, and the necessary room for storage of feed; one sheep-harn, with a capacity for about one hundred and fifty head; the inclosure of an old frame already on the station farm for the use of the horticultural department, and the erection of a small power-house for engine near the large barn. The plans for these buildings contemplate plain frame structures—just such buildings, in fact, as are to be found on hundreds of farms in Ohio now, the only difference between them and the ordinary farmer's barn being that the work of the station requires greater capacity.

Three thousand dollars is requested for the construction of a dairy building, or just one tenth the cost of the dairy building of the Wisconsin experiment station; \$1,000 for a tool-house, and \$1,000 for a residence, including stable, sidewalks and other necessary improvements of the lot on which it is to stand. The rental of this building will be a source of income to the station, as no perquisite of any sort is allowed under the present management.

BUTTERINE WAR.

There is a great row on in York state over the attempted sale of butterine by Armour & Co. in violation of the statute. The butter dealers of New York City held an animated meeting recently, at which it was charged that the state dairy commissioner and his deputy commissioner were permitting large firms to handle the butterine and prosecuting small firms for the same. The deputy commissioner, who was present, simply declared the charge unworthy of answer. A letter was read stating that a combination has been formed by the cheese and oleo men of Iowa and Illinois to fight any opposition to the butterine traffic in New York, but just how the cheese men come to join this alleged unholy alliance was not explained. Exporters of butter complained of the bad effect the shipment of butterine was having on their trade in tropical climates, and stated that the export of butter had fallen off in consequence one third to one half. It was decided to call a convention at Washington at an early date, and lay the matter before the authorities there.

Dairy Commissioner Schraub comes back at the mercantile exchange with a club and informs the public that the deputy commissioner and his assistants in New York City were appointed and retained in service on the petition of its members. Fifty-eight convictions have been obtained for violations of the oleo law, and a large number of litigations are pending in which the constitutionality of the law is in question. He denounces Armour & Co. as persistent violators of the law. He further reminds the mercantile exchange that his department simply has concurrent jurisdiction with other officers of the state, and if the exchange is not satisfied with the work being done, it can call on the attorney-general or the district attorney to bring actions. On the face of it, the commissioner appears to have the better of the argument with the exchange.

Meanwhile Armour & Co. are seeking in the United States court at Utica to restrain Commissioner Schraub from interfering with the sale of butterine in original packages. They will undoubtedly obtain the injunction prayed for. When the United States supreme court handed down its famous "original package" decision in the Iowa liquor cases, establishing the right under interstate commerce of liquor dealers to sell their goods in original packages in states where the liquor traffic was prohibited, *The Gazette* promptly pointed out that it opened the door to the oleo-makers to flood with their goods in original packages, the states which had legislated against the sale of "bull-butter." Congress quickly passed a measure in relief of the prohibitory states from this decision as applied to traffic in intoxicants, and the butter men finally awoke to the effect of the decision upon the oleo legislation and sought similar relief from Congress, but their measure was in some way lost in the shuffle, where it seems to remain. It doubtless will be revived, as it is the only way in which the trade in original packages of oleo can be circumvented.—*Breeder's Gazette*.

THE FORGOTTEN WOOL GROWER.

Grover Cleveland says that the great wool manufacturing industry needs protection; that it has taken years of protection to build it up, and it must not be obliterated by competition with foreign countries, "Just a reasonable protection," he says. Grover forgets the wool grower, who has been building up an industry in which over one million men are personally interested, and hundreds of thousands more dependent upon. If this industry was fostered and protected, our country could and would support over 100,000,000 sheep, thereby making a market for millions of bushels of grain and millions of tons of hay.—*American Sheep Breeder*.

The Centennial State. Silver is not the only precious metal in Colorado. The silver-miners have gone to work prospecting for gold, developing gold-mines and mining gold. By another year she may be known as the "New Golden State," for it is confidently expected that her output of gold for this year will be one half the total yield of the United States. A *Tribune* correspondent says: "If the governor will only let us alone, within six months there will be as many miners employed as before the panic." Besides, the agricultural products of Colorado exceed in value all her mineral products combined. Colorado is not "busted," even if all her citizens do not get to Pike's peak.

Our Farm.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

HOW TO BE HAPPY.—Farmers are said to be natural grumbler. This certainly may be so with scattered individuals. If applied to farmers as a class, I believe the saying is a gross libel on them, and that indeed there is no happier lot, as a whole, than the American soil-tiller. With the opportunities which he has at his command, he ought to be happy. Maybe everybody is his own fortune's architect, but I think in a much truer sense everybody can be the manufacturer of his own happiness. Happiness does not come from outside; is not dependent on riches or worldly success, but comes from within, and is simply a state of mind, and therefore a condition which can be cultivated or acquired by habit. It is a desirable condition, too, because it puts the possessor and all those around him—a whole family, if you will—at ease and on a peace footing; in peace with themselves and the world at large.

Still the world is full of misery and suffering. We have our great losses and sorrows, and they sadly mar our happiness for a time. But it is extreme folly to allow small matters to interfere with it. Sometimes the loss of a pencil or pocket-knife, the death of a pet bird or cat, a cross word, a little mishap of this or that kind, will give one a prolonged spell of the blues, and make a whole family feel miserable for days at a time. Isn't this the height of folly? I believe that a person can get into the habit of taking all such petty losses and annoyances lightly. I have grown old enough to know that things in this world frequently do not go the way we would like them to go, and that, even if they do not, we get along just as well, and the world moves on. I have made up my mind that it is our natural fate to lose and suffer. Nobody is, or can expect to be, exempt. If we have a small loss, instead of mourning over it, and spoil days that might be days of happiness and enjoyment, we should compare in our minds the smallness of the real loss with the loss that we might have met, and try to bear the small losses cheerfully. It may be hard at first to some dispositions; it will become easier as you keep trying, and in the end become second nature.

Some people worry about the wickedness of this world. It is true there is enough of it. We see it in daily life; we read of it in the newspapers. It is not necessary to go to the slums of the great cities to find it. It is everywhere, in cities large and small, in towns and country homes, too. We see cruelty in and outside of public institutions, and vices of every description. We can sympathize with Dr. Parkhurst and others that are fighting the vices of the cities. We can try to help in the good work in the country where such work is also needed. Yet I do not think it is absolutely necessary for preachers and delicate women to go "slumming," for the sake of finding and reaching vice. We find it everywhere, and can do our share in fighting it, without going much out of our way. Indeed, it may be much more effective to fight the open vices that meet us openly, than the hidden ones in the slums. The gamblers and bad characters generally, who ply their trade in the darkness of night and the hidden recesses of the slums, do not generally offer profitable subjects for reformatory efforts. Nor are they doing as much damage to the public as many of the seemingly more respectable open sinners. I believe, the former do not deserve as much attention, except by the police, as often given them by our zealous reformers. In most cases, too, the work of these world-storming and world-reforming preachers and women results in greater notoriety and welcome advertising for the attacked resorts of vice. We have seen this in Chicago. The fuss that was made for a time (without doing any good) over the Oriental dances (especially the famous and ill-renowned *danse du ventre*), kept the Egyptian theater in Cairo street and other theaters of that kind, filled with curious visitors all the time. It seems to be human nature to go where things are reported to be a little naughty. Many people will contend that the authorities in charge of the fair grounds should have stopped a performance which surely is not graceful, and it seems to me cannot be attractive to anybody who was not brought up in the orient. But these performances would not have drawn half as many people

as they did, if nothing had been said or done against them.

While in a general way I admit that there is plenty of wickedness and vice in this world, I am happy in the thought that the world is getting better all the time. Wickedness and crime always have existed, and in far more horrible forms, and more generally than they do now. Education with the refinement that it brings, is the great moderator, and the most powerful foe of vice. Instead of worrying ourselves sick over the contemplation of the wickedness of the world, we might rest easy in the conviction that the world to-day is better than it once was, and that it will be better by and by than it is now. The great reformers who attack the slums of cities, and other public vices, but neglect to bring up their children as they should, had better let charity begin at home. Let your children have a common-sense education. This is the most potent weapon we have with which to fight vice.

Then comes politics. Some worry over this. Now, I believe that it is every good citizen's duty—be he lawyer, merchant or farmer—to read the papers, and study up on the questions of the day. But he should do so without passion and without prejudice, and not allow his good sense to be carried away by the sham arguments or the rhetoric of a partisan press. The times for a vindictive condemnation of the opposite party have gone forever. Independent thought is spreading like wild fire. I believe in certain principles. The party that comes nearest to advocate my principles is my party. I stick by it as long as it adheres to these principles. Whenever it renounces them it is not my party any more. At the same time I do not look for perfection in any party or person. For the sake of great principles I can overlook smaller faults for a time. But I do not expect that there ever will be a party that will please me in everything. Nobody can hope to have his way in all matters. Often things go entirely against our wishes. The laws which Congress passes may possibly be very different from my ideal; yet I know I will have to stand these things, and I make up my mind not to worry over them, or let them interfere with my happiness. I am not infallible. Sometimes things that we did not at all relish at first, turn out for the best in the end. We may be sure of this, that ours is a great country, and we may rest assured that it will not go to the dogs. Wrong often triumphs for a time, but right is right, and must prevail in the end. Our lawgivers may make blunders. No need of worrying ourselves to death over them. Blunders will be righted. If a certain policy does not prove advantageous to our interests, it will be abandoned or reversed. All will come out well in the end. There can be no doubt about it. I will not let politics and partisan feeling interfere with my happiness.

T. GREINER.

CORN AND BEANS AS A CROP.

In south Missouri, on the Ozark mountains, corn raising was a rather unsatisfactory business with us, mainly due to the drouthy weather of July and August. Among the many experiments we made to find a way of beating corn raising, none promised so much as the planting of beans and southern cow-peas in the hills with corn. We gave each a separate trial one year, and will here outline each separately.

We used a large, round, white bean with a round, red spot on one side, that was a climber and gave a large amount of foliage. The beans and corn were dropped by hand, three grains of corn and two beans in the same hill. The soil was what Missourians called a mulatto soil, not rich, but in fair condition and tilth. The corn was a small, white, early variety of Dent, that yielded well and always grew a solid, perfect grain, if only a nubbin was found on a stalk. The corn and beans came up perfectly, and grew finely. The cultivation was such as a corn crop should have, and no attention was especially given to the beans, as they were only meant for a catch crop.

The season proved to be a typical one. July brought hot, dry weather, as usual, and corn that was cultivated close curled up badly. One acre of corn and beans was a part of quite a field of corn, and had all been treated alike in the cultivation. It is fair to mention that a neighbor, a good corn raiser, and my confidante in all experiments, objected to the beans being planted so thickly, as he feared they would smother the corn and take the moisture and strength of the soil from the corn.

Now for results. At no time did this acre of corn show the effects of the drouth

as did the balance of the field. The corn came into tassel and silk with the rest of the field, the ears developed far better than the remainder of the field, and it was by far the best acre of the whole. The foliage of the beans shaded the corn-plants, and I suspected that the long tap-roots of the beans brought up moisture that the corn roots appropriated.

Here I had an acre of good corn and such a show of beans as I had never seen before, and I did not know just what to do. It seemed a pity to waste the beans, and I had never fed beans to sheep and cattle, so it was decided to cut up the field for fodder, and leave this plat until the beans were ripe and gathered. This was a mistake, because I lost all the bean foliage, which would have been quite an item in the fodder. I had supposed the beans would shell out in handling the fodder and be a waste, which was not so, even when allowed to fully ripen.

Those who may have had experience in hand-picking an acre of corn-field beans may smile at my pains. It was a big job, but I got fourteen bushels of shelled beans, and enough were left to show what a few beans and a great lot of bean-vines, if the leaves were gone, would do for corn fodder. The "critters" enjoyed them greatly.

The other experiment was on ten rows, twenty rods long, of Stowell's Evergreen sweet corn. The corn was planted in drills, with cow-peas mixed about half and half, thicker than I would do again. This was planted in one of the gardens; the soil was strong. This was intended for green forage for the cows if the grass failed in the fall. The variety of corn was a bad choice, as it got its growth and dried up long before the cow-peas stopped growing. The corn did well, but the cow-pea vines finally took possession and covered up the whole thing, and tied everything into a fearful mass. I don't think I ever saw so much forage on the same area of land before in all my life, and it was worth all it came to to cut and haul it to the cows. The feed was of the very best, and was relished by all the stock. A small part of it was put in the barn, and was as much of a treat to the cattle in the winter as it had been when green in the fall.

By these two experiments I found it was possible to grow two crops at the same time, on the same land, without detriment to either. The beans and cow-peas fully doubled the amount of forage that would have been obtained otherwise, and at no additional cost of cultivation.

While cheaper stock food is the one great problem with stock raisers, farmers have not sought for short cuts to profits on this line as much as they should. They seem to think they have a right to complain, and grow poorer and quit business if they cannot make money feeding corn worth forty to fifty cents a bushel and hay worth ten to fifteen dollars a ton to their stock.

The FARM AND FIRESIDE has been advocating the raising of catch crops—crops that do not interfere with the regular farm crops—for a long time. It has done so because the situation demands such an intensive system of farming.

The raising of live stock should be a prominent part of the farm industries all over this country. This can be the rule, and be profitable in actual cash receipts and in improved fertility of the soil; but cheaper food supplies must be obtained. That they are possible no one doubts. The above experiments showed that the beans fostered the corn and the corn fostered the beans. A little forethought would show many other possibilities by which two and three crops may be obtained from the same land without serious detriment or inconvenience to the soil. Let experiments be made in this direction. R. M. BELL.

HEAVY FEEDING PAYS.

Bulletin No. 24 of the station, just issued, gives the results of an experiment by Professors Waters and Caldwell and Mr. Weld upon the question of the most profitable amount of food for a milch cow.

In these experiments, ten cows were fed a ration beginning with eight pounds of grain and twelve pounds of hay, and gradually increasing up to as high as nineteen pounds of grain and twenty-seven pounds of hay per day and head, and then gradually decreasing to the original amount. Throughout the experiment, accurate notes were taken of the amount and cost of the food, the amount of milk produced by each animal and its butter value as determined by the Babcock test.

Perhaps the most striking lesson of the experiment is the demonstration it gives of the profit there is in liberal feeding.

The cheapest ration used cost 18.8 cents per day and produced butter valued at 26.5 cents, making a net profit of 7.7 cents per day per cow. An increase of 2.9 cents per day per cow in the cost of this ration made the daily value of the butter 31 cents and the net profit 9.3 cents per day, or a difference of 1.6 cents per day per cow in favor of the more costly ration. In other words, the farmer who attempted to economize by feeding the cheaper ration would, with a herd of twenty-five cows, save \$217.50 per year on his feed bills, but would lose \$337.50 worth of butter that he might have produced with the more costly ration, so that his ill-judged attempt at economy would result in a net loss of \$120.

The cheaper ration, moreover, is what would ordinarily be considered a good ration, and the majority of dairymen would be likely to feed less, rather than more, yet the results of this bulletin show conclusively that with such cows as these, the more expensive ration was really the more economical.

A further increase of the cost of the ration, however, to 25.1 cents per day gave no further increase in the butter product, and the net profit was thereby cut down to 5.9 cents per day or 1.8 cents less than with the cheapest ration of the three. In other words, the experiments indicate that there is a certain medium ration for each cow which will give the greatest net profit and that any attempt to economize by feeding less than this will result in a loss, while, on the other hand, it is possible to feed a cow too much as well as too little. Generally, however, there is more danger of feeding too little than too much.

The experiment also brings out in a striking light the great individual differences in cows and the great importance of a careful study by the dairymen of each individual of his herd, both as regards the amount of milk and butter produced and the cost of feed consumed. The net profit yielded by each one of the ten cows used in this experiment was the greatest on the medium ration, but it varied in amount from 2.2 cents per day to 24 cents per day; equivalent, for a milking period of 300 days, to \$6.60 and \$72.00 respectively.

The increased profit coming from the better feeding, too, varied greatly with different animals, some responding promptly and freely to the increase, while on others it produced but little effect.

The figures of the bulletin show likewise what great differences in profit there may be between cows producing very nearly the same total amount of milk and butter per year. For example, the records show that last year

Marguerite produced, 6,512 pounds of milk and 296 pounds of butter.

Ramona produced, 5,459 pounds of milk and 279 pounds of butter.

By the customary standard of comparison, Marguerite would have been regarded as the superior animal, barring difference in breeding, etc., and would have commanded the higher price. On comparing the daily net profit returned by these animals, however, we find a remarkable difference not indicated or suggested by the butter and milk records.

Assuming that they remain fresh 300 days, taking the average net profit per day of all periods, we have a yearly profit for

Marguerite..... \$31.50

Ramona..... 61.50

On this basis, at the end of six years, which, for this case, we assume to be the productive life of a cow, and disregarding the offspring, they would have made a total net return of

Marguerite..... \$189.00

Ramona..... 369.00

This means that Marguerite would have yielded ten per cent compound interest on a purchase price of \$100, while Ramona would have paid the same dividend on a purchase price of \$208.

Again, in the case of Bianca producing 5,556 pounds of milk and 232 pounds of butter last year, we have the following exhibit:

Average daily net profit for all periods 4.9 cents.

Total net profit for one year..... \$14.70

Total net profit for six years..... 88.20

The reader may regard these as extreme cases, and yet they were selected from the ten animals used in this experiment and there is no reason to doubt that as great differences might be found.

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Our Farm.

GARDEN AND FIELD NOTES.

GARDENING STILL PAYS.—Good farm editors are not always good farmers, nor good advisers on practical farm questions. They may have ever so clear a head, but if the training in the field is lacking, they are liable to go wrong. In one of the last numbers of the bright little *Farm Journal*, the editor advised his readers to strike out on new lines in farming; for instance, to raise vegetables, poultry, lambs, etc., rather than stick to the old farm rotation. When given in a general way, this is about the worst advice that can be given. Jumping from one business into another will never lead to success. Jacob Biggle takes the editor to task in the following words:

"I know something about it, for I have been right in it, and have tried almost everything from rutabagas to bees. Many of the things I tried were not successful, but I do not undertake to say but that it was my own fault. Success often depends on the man more than on the thing tried, and if you have not discovered this fact, you have not lived up to your opportunities.

"Among the things I tried was cabbages. I had been persuaded to go into cabbages by some such advice as the editor is now giving, and it has always been my habit when I went into a thing to go it strong. So with the best light I had, after voluminous reading and ardent study, I set out a whole field of cabbages—some ten acres. It was a big job, I assure you, and cost money.

"If you are good at figures, you can count over 7,200 plants per acre, or 72,000 on ten acres; that at \$3 per hundred—and they often sell for \$6—the gross income would be \$2,160 for the crop. Allowing one fourth off for the chances of a bad season or other accidents, we have left over \$1,500 as the proceeds from the ten-acre field. I had heard of others doing far better than this, and read of fortunes being made in cabbages on quite small farms.

"Now, how did the crop turn out? Not at all as I expected. In the first place the seed was bad, and not one head in ten was solid, as it ought to have been, and the tenth one would go quash if I should sit down on it; then the worms riddled almost every head, and the greeulie made sad havoc throughout the whole patch; and when we came to the harvest the heavy rains which fell about that time caused so much mud and mire that the men got disgusted with the job, and threw it up before it was half done, leaving thirty or forty thousand heads for me to take care of myself. The truth was, we only got into market about 5,000 heads, and these averaged about \$2 per hundred—a total of \$100, less tolls and market expenses.

"I haven't tried cabbages since, except in a smaller way, which turned out better; but I would not advise your readers to plunge pell-mell into the great unknown of truck gardening, without due and thoughtful consideration."

I have quoted all this because it is so unusually good and instructive. Mr. Biggle's case was not a serious one. He is a wealthy man and probably thought the experience was worth all it cost. But there are thousands upon thousands of people of more than average intelligence who, although they are not in the situation to make costly experiments, are led on to strike out in new lines and to final disaster by thoughtless advice, and by the golden promises held out by theoretical enthusiasts. Of course, the *Farm Journal* editor did not expect that in following his advice, a person would be guilty of such poor management as Jacob Biggle describes. Ten to one, the seed was not as bad as he imagines. The looseness of the heads was probably due to something besides seed. Then, a good gardener will not give the worms and the lie quite so much chance; nor will he abandon the crop on account of rain and mud. When a person cannot raise more than 500 good heads of cabbage per acre, he better quit the business.

I imagine, however, that Mr. Biggle did not quite catch the *Farm Journal* editor's idea. It is very doubtful to my mind whether the latter would, or meant to, advise any one to plant ten acres of cabbage, or one acre of onions, at the very start; or to begin the poultry business with 1,000

hens, etc. Any undertaking of this kind cannot be made a success without a combination of favorable conditions. Land and climate must be right for the crop. There must be a market for the product. The man himself must be adapted to his business. Gardening is not a speculation, but a steady, legitimate business, and one which has to be learned. Nobody can expect to obtain satisfactory results without going through a regular course of apprenticeship.

And yet, gardening still pays. Thousands of people raise large crops of cabbages, and secure good returns. If the conditions are fairly favorable, the right man will know how to make his crop pay. But he sticks to his business. He does not raise cabbages one year, and lambs the next, and ducks after that, and when all these do not pay, hops, bees, turnips, etc., all to be discarded again in their turn. By jumping about from one thing to another, a person can only get from the frying-pan into the fire. Learn how to raise cabbages, and you can make money in growing cabbages. Learn how to raise onions, and onions will pay you. Lambs can be made to pay, and ducks can be made to pay, and geese also. On the whole, however, poultry keeping as a business is far less safe and far less remunerative than gardening. Poultry, as an adjunct to the farm, and when kept in reasonable numbers, usually pays well. When you want to make a big business of it, you fail. It is different with truck raising. You must begin in a small way, and be a learner before you can safely embark in extensive operations. But when you have once learned the trade, you can extend it further and further, as your experience, your inclination and your means may permit. And when you find that you can make a certain crop pay you reasonable profits, stick to it. When you have been growing potatoes until you have become an expert, and have learned how to produce good crops, and to make them pay fairly well, don't give up the crop for cabbages or anything else, in the hope that the latter will pay you better. It will be far preferable to raise a few additional crops in a small way, and learn all about them, and find out whether they give better returns than your main crop, and then be guided by experience rather than by expectations and promises.

JOSEPH.

SUBSURFACE WATERING IN GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN.

The careful reader of these pages is acquainted with the new method of watering greenhouse crops by subirrigation, as practiced by the Ohio experiment station. The subject is one of importance, and the experiments in this line have been continued and broadened to fit the benches for the new system of watering; they were constructed new throughout and made water-tight by using clear, hard-wood flooring (Georgia pine) and pouring white lead into the grooves. The ends and sides, as well as the bottoms, were made water-tight. Upon the floor of the benches, which was level, lines of three-inch drain-tile were laid, extending their whole length. In the side benches, which are four feet wide, two lines of tile were used. In the middle benches, which are seven feet wide, three to four lines of tile were laid. All were laid in cement which extended partly up the sides of the joints. This was done so the water would not run out too freely at first. The cementing compels the water to pass the whole length of the tile before much, if any, runs out. It then escapes from all the joints alike.

The crops grown were radishes, lettuce, tomatoes, parsley and cucumbers. The effect of the under-surface watering upon the growth and health of the crops named was remarkable. By careful weighings, as well as by the actual market returns, it was found that the radishes averaged more than fifty per cent better, and the difference in earliness and quality was quite as marked as the difference in quantity. With surface watering, especially during cloudy weather, there was a rank growth of tops and a proportionally smaller development of root. When pulled for market the tops would frequently weigh more than the roots, and many plants with unusually large tops would have a small, tough, spindling root that was worthless. With under-surface watering the tops were comparatively small, and the roots large; the latter more than double the weight of the former, and well developed in almost every part. The effect upon lettuce was equally evident and nearly as favorable. The yield was

from twenty to thirty per cent greater, and the lettuce rot, which was quite bad where surface watering was practiced, was completely held in check by under-surface watering. The effect upon cucumbers was no less beneficial than with the crops just mentioned. The results were less marked upon tomatoes and parsley, although the advantages here were plainly discernable. Upon the average it was found necessary to run water into the tiles about once a week. The proper amount of water to use is readily determined by the appearance of the plant and the condition of the soil. There is little danger of overwatering, for the tiles act to a certain extent as drains, and by allowing free access of air the soil never becomes sour or water-soaked.

The experiments in subsurface watering have also been extended to open field operations. A fairly level spot was selected in the vegetable garden and divided into plots, each twenty-five by forty feet. In one plot lines of three-inch tile were laid eight inches deep and two and one half feet apart, the rows extending lengthwise of the plot. The tile was laid upon an exact level and the ends embedded in cement. At one end of each line an upright tile was placed, into which water could be turned. The opposite ends were all connected with a line of tile, which continued beyond the plots and acted as an outlet when the tiles are used as a drain. A valve was placed at the beginning of this outlet so that when desired water could be held in the tiles. So, when the soil was too wet, the valve was opened and the tiles acted as a drain; when it became too dry and water was turned into the tiles, the valve was closed, and the tiles acted as a reservoir, from which the water passed into the soil. Another plot was treated in the same way, except that only one half the number of tiles were used. As a result it was seen that the soil of the tiled plots was dry, and in a fit condition to work several days before that of the adjacent untiled plots. The crops planted on these plots were early beets, onions, potatoes and string-beans. Rains were plentiful in the early part of the season, and there was but little difference noted between the crop of early beets on the tiled and on the untiled plots. For the onions and string-beans, water was turned into the tiles at five different times, and the effect was marked. Onions yielded an increase of over fifty per cent, and the crop of string-beans was considerably more than doubled in weight. Besides this increase in weight, the season was greatly lengthened and the quality of the crop greatly improved. At this rate of gain, for intensive cultivation, this system of controlling soil moisture is a grand success. It has all the advantages of under-surface watering in the greenhouse, and combines drainage when an excess of moisture renders this necessary. These facts were taken from a paper read at a recent meeting by Professor W. R. Lazenby.

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SEEDS GIVEN AWAY FOR TRIAL. I have found that the best way to advertise good Seeds is to give away a sample for trial. If you will send me a 2-cent stamp to pay postage, I will mail free one package, your selection, of either Cabbage, Carrot, Celery, Cucumber, Lettuce, Muskrat Water Melon, Onion, Parsnip, Pepper, Pumpkin, Radish, Spinach, Squash, Tomato, Turnip, or of Flower Seeds—Aster, Balsam, Celosia, Carnation, Mignonette, Pansy, Phlox, Poppy, Sweet Peas, Zinnia, or Verbena, and one of my 1894 Catalogues. Under any circumstances do not buy my Seeds until you see it, for I can save you money. Over 200,000 people say my seeds are the cheapest and best. I have earliest vegetables on record. Discount and large prizes to agents. 50 cents worth of Seeds free with \$1.00 order. Write to-day. **F. B. MILLS**, Box 22, Rose Hill, N.Y.

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FREE TO ALL. Our New Illustrated Catalogue of PLANTS, ROSES, BULBS, VINES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, SMALL FRUITS, GRAPE VINES, SEEDS, etc., will be mailed FREE to all applicants. 100 pages. Most complete Plant Catalogue published. Satisfaction Guaranteed. 20 Rose Houses, 45 GREENHOUSES; 30 acres NURSERIES.

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FERRY'S SEEDS Are just what every sower needs. The merits of Ferry's Seeds form the foundation upon which has been built the largest seed business in the world. Ferry's Seed Annual for 1894 contains the sum and substance of the latest farming knowledge. Free for the asking. **D. M. FERRY & CO.**, Detroit, Mich.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Our Farm.

Orchard and Small Fruits.
CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

PLANTING AND CARE OF AN APPLE ORCHARD.

OBTAIN healthy, stocky, three or four year old trees of varieties that you know do well in your localities, rather than new and untried sorts. Select a well-drained, deep, rich soil (one that always produces good corn). The year previous to setting your orchard, plow it a little deeper than usual about June 1st, turning under a good coating of grass if possible. Sow with oats, and harrow the land thoroughly, and when the heads begin to show, turn them under nicely with the plow by plowing an inch deeper than at first. Then sow with rye about September 1st, and harrow well.

The following spring order your trees, and when they arrive, open them carefully and take off all superfluous limbs, and then shorten in the remaining ones one half of the last year's growth. Cut the mutilated ends of the roots smooth, and then dig a deep ditch in your garden and set them in close together, and throw a little earth over the roots and then wet it thoroughly; fill it with soil and bank the dirt about the trees.

Now turn under your rye with a good plow, and get down a little deeper than at the last plowing. Should the rye be large enough to turn under with difficulty, fasten a heavy chain from the outer end of the plow to the plow-beam, and make it just slack enough so that the furrow will not catch it, and it will then turn under all right.

Now harrow nicely, and then lay out your orchard, setting a small stake where each tree is intended to stand, so that you may get them true. Dig all the holes. They should be three feet across and two feet deep. Scatter all the subsoil about, leaving only the soil for use. (The secret of a large hole is that it contains more soft, rich earth for the young trees, and is not so readily affected by either drouth or moisture.) Now bring out part of your trees, keeping the roots wrapped in a wet blanket until you plant them. Trees can be placed in position just right by using two lines running at right angles. They should not be set nearer than thirty feet. Fill the hole to within one foot of the surface with good soil, and press it down with the foot; then place your tree in position, and fill about the roots with good soil and press it down firmly until a little more than level, and then place some loose earth on the top. Set a small stake near the tree, and with a soft cord fasten the tree to it. When all are planted, harrow the land again and mark out with a small plow, in furrows thirty inches apart each way, and plant with potatoes. Cultivate thoroughly, and keep trees and plants free from weeds until fall.

The following spring give the land a nice dressing of manure, and sow ten bushels of ashes to the acre, and plant with some early sort of potatoes. After they are dug, plow and top-dress lightly with manure. Sow the same amount of ashes, and seed with wheat and clover.

The summer after the wheat has been taken off let the clover get as large as you can turn under with the plow, and then turn it under with a good plow. Top-dress lightly as before and plant potatoes again, or corn, if you prefer.

Follow with early potatoes the next year, and seed to wheat and clover as before. Continue this routine for the next eight or ten years.

After the trees begin to bear, the land can lay two years to clover and orchard-grass, and when the trees get fair size and begin to cover the ground, it is well to seed with redtop and orchard-grass, and let it remain so. Keep out all superfluous limbs and cultivate low, open tops, and for the first ten years keep a piece of waterproof, manila building-paper wrapped about the base of the tree and fastened with an elastic cord from just beneath the surface to one foot above, to guard against the worst of all apple-tree enemies, the borer. Trees handled in this way will grow very fast and need very little pruning, which is much to their advantage.

The slower a tree grows, the thicker the top and the more waste wood to cut out; where one limb is cut out, three often start out.

From my observation, these instructions will always produce very satisfactory results.

Subscribe for the FARM AND FIRESIDE, be careful, temperate, industrious, prudent, contented and patient, and in time the harvest will surely come.

New York.

A. T. COOK.

SUCCESSFUL FRUIT GROWING.

In successful fruit growing there is something more than the mechanical work of plowing, hoeing and cultivating. There is a real pleasure in the growing of fruits, and in the development of each leaf, bud and blossom there is an inspiration, but the real practical knowledge of growing them to the best advantage can be acquired only by careful reading of good books and papers, followed by close observation.

First, then, subscribe for several first-class journals, horticultural, agricultural, and others having a well-conducted horticultural department. Commence now to study and plan for the berry garden that is to be.

The wonder of the age is that so many most excellent papers may be had at so little cost; and the misfortune of the age is that people do not read more of them. Half a dozen in each family is none too many. A single number is often worth more than a year's subscription. Your own state horticultural and agricultural reports are valuable, and may be had for the asking.

Small fruits and berries can be produced ready for packing at three cents per quart. Every farm and village home should have all that can be used.

A quarter-acre garden, well arranged, set to best varieties and properly cared for, should yield at least twenty-five bushels of berries. In no other way can a farmer produce so much of value with so little labor, as in a garden of small fruits.

The question to decide now is, shall we have a berry garden the coming spring?

M. A. THAYER.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Varieties of Peaches.—A correspondent signing himself J. S. Mc., writes: "It is hard to tell what varieties of peaches to plant, as there are so many kinds offered by the different nurserymen."

REPLY:—In settling this question it is better to consult with the practical orchardist than with the nurseryman, as the latter is apt to color the list he recommends by the kinds he has for sale. It is important to buy trees of honest nurserymen, so as to get them true to name. If they are true to name when planted, they will be so when they bear fruit. The kinds which do best with me are, in the order of ripening, Alexander, Early Rivers, Mountain Rose, Old Mixon Free and Old Mixon Cling, Chase's Choice Elberta, Prince's Rare-ripe, Fox's seedling, Garriell Holden, a seedling of the Smock and Ward's Late. In setting a peach orchard, always begin with one-year-old trees having good, strong roots; cut off all side branches and shorten the main stem to two feet.

Cranberry Culture.—O. E. D., New Britain, Conn. Your plan of putting six inches of sand on the land may aid you a little, but a much better plan would be to destroy the turf first and then put on sand. The weeds will bother you about coming up through the sand, unless the bog is covered with some of the weaker grasses, when it may possibly be smothered out by the sand. If one has a promising location, it generally pays well to fit it very perfectly before planting. On this account I would recommend that you be sure the turf is well subdued before putting on sand on a large area. The planting should be done in the spring, and the plants set in hills about two feet apart each way, putting four or five cuttings in a place. After planting, raise the water high enough to keep the sand around the cuttings quite moist, and they will root very quickly. I presume you mean to put on the sand this winter. You will find it a good plan to own Webb's "Cape Cod Cranberries," for sale by FARM AND FIRESIDE. It contains just the information you need.

Green Manure on Strawberry-plants—Raspberry Tips.—J. F. G., Jonesboro, Ind., writes: "I set out a patch of strawberries last fall for home use. After setting the plants, I covered the ground, not the plants, with fresh stable manure. Did I do the right thing in thus manuring the ground? Can I use fresh stable manure to cover the plants for winter, or would straw be better?—I also set out some raspberry tips which had taken root this summer. Are they better for setting than one-year-old plants?"

REPLY:—It certainly can do no harm to have the green manure between the rows of your strawberry-plants, and will probably be very beneficial. Of course, it would have been a very bad plan to have covered the plants, as it might cause them to rot if covered heavily. Besides this manure between the rows, it would have been a good plan to have lightly covered the plants with some light mulch, such as swale, hay, oat straw, stable litter or leaves, which would not lie closely on the plants. This protects from freezing and thawing in the spring and from drouth in summer. This may be put on at any time after the ground is frozen in autumn. Some years when prevented by snow from putting it on in the fall, I have put it on early in the spring, as soon as the snow was gone. I do not like fresh stable manure for covering the plants. It is apt to smother them.—Raspberry tips are not nearly so sure to grow, nor so good for planting as one-year-old canes with good roots. Rooted raspberry tips should not be planted in the fall, as they are frequently winter-killed if disturbed in autumn. It is safest to allow them to remain where rooted, to be taken up in spring. The hardness of old plants will be much increased by having their tips rooted in the ground all winter.

Apple-trees Not Bearing.—M. A., Delta, Wash., writes: "What can I do with apple-trees that are ten years old and do not bear? The trees are strong and healthy."

REPLY:—It is quite impossible to answer your question intelligently without knowing the kinds of trees and whether all are of one kind. Some varieties of apples are not fruitful unless near other kinds. Other varieties do not come into bearing until they are quite old, while some varieties on rich land take much more time to come into bearing than if on good fruit land.

Apple Seed—Russian Mulberry—Moving Evergreens.—E. M. K., Ibsen, Minn.

We keep apple seed buried in moist sand in a cold cellar where it freezes occasionally during the winter. This freezing is desirable. If possible, I like to keep the seed from getting very dry. In the spring we bring the seed in the sand into a warm room, and keep it there until it starts, when we sow it in drills in warm land, and it never fails to start, although we often have to fight the cutworms, which are fond of the tender seedlings.—Russian mulberry seed is very sure to grow, if sown as soon as ripe, where it will not dry out. We make up a rich bed surrounded with boards, and cover with a screen of cotton cloth, and sow the seed at once. It will also grow readily if sown in a box in the window. If sown when ripe, it will be two inches high by autumn.—White-ash seed should be treated as recommended for apple seed, and I have found it sure to grow.—Native evergreens may be successfully moved to the prairie. One of the best of these is red cedar. Most of the loss in doing this comes from allowing the roots to get dry in handling. If this is prevented and the work done in spring, it is a very sure operation.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM TEXAS.—The numerous inquiries that I have received about this part of Texas leads me to believe that there are many people in the North seeking homes in a mild climate, and prompts me to extend an invitation to all such to visit this part of Texas. Our climate equals that of California, with additional advantages of richer soil and regular rainfall. We neither fertilize nor irrigate. We have plenty of flowers and roses in bloom in our yard in midwinter. Land can be bought at from \$8 to \$15 per acre now, but is increasing in value very fast on account of northern immigration. In the past eighteen months quite a number of northern people moved here, and all are well pleased. Consumption and sunstroke are unknown here, which is evidence of our mild winters and pleasant summers. We reach the markets of the world, and the earliness with which we can send fruits and vegetables insures us fancy prices. I have no land to sell.

H. I. C.
Wallis Station, Texas.

FROM ILLINOIS.—This town has two of the largest canning factories in the world. They packed last fall 6,000,000 cans of corn and 3,000,000 cans of peas. Another factory to make tin cans was located last week. The town has a clothing factory employing one hundred men and women. It has tile and brick factories and other industries. It has Greer's college, the gift of the late John Greer. It has a system of water-works which all the surrounding towns of any size are trying to pattern after. It has a fine electric light plant, corporated. To crown all, Hooperston has no saloon. When a man comes here to seek a location and asks what kind of town we have, every man, woman and child whoops for Hooperston. Twenty years ago it was a miasmic swamp with a roan cow and calf tied to a stake; now it has 3,000 healthy, wealthy and wise people. To-day it is one of the best towns of its size in the state, because all her citizens pull together.

Hooperston, Ill. A. J. McW.

FROM OREGON.—Stock is doing well this winter. Fat beef is plentiful and cheap. Hogs are selling at 4½ cents a pound on foot. Prune boxing is going on at a rapid rate. There will be over 200,000 pounds shipped from here this winter. Our climate is unsurpassed. Any one who would find fault with the weather we are now having does not deserve to live in a good country. There is every indication that a sorghum factory will be in operation before next season's crop comes on. A large hydraulic mining plant is soon to be put in operation about two miles from town, and the mining industry is looking up all around here. I believe that before another year rolls around this will be one of the most prosperous communities on the Pacific coast. It is only ten miles from here to the famous nickel mines that took the first premium at the world's fair. This is one of the finest coun-

tries for a man to invest money in that I know. Land can be had from \$8.50 to \$100 an acre, according to quality and location. Wheat, oats, barley and corn do very well here, yielding from 20 to 50 bushels to the acre. All kinds of vegetables can be raised. This country is the least advertised and the best part of Oregon.

W. T. F.
Myrtle Creek, Oregon.

SECRET OF HER SUCCESS.

A lady said recently:—"My fifty hens, half pullets, and half year old hens, are now, Dec. 26, laying two dozen eggs and upwards every day." It pays, of course, to get that many eggs in mid-winter. But the secret of her success, she says, was in the fact that she had used more or less Sheridan's Powder every month in the year, so that they were in condition to lay when eggs brought the most money. Her hens and chickens are sound and healthy the year through, and she believes it largely due to Sheridan's Condition Powder. Certainly over 30 years use ought to be ample recommendation for it.

I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass., will send further particulars to any one free.

850,000 GRAPE VINES

100 Varieties. Also Small Fruits, Trees, &c. Best rooted stock. Genuine, cheap. 2 sample vines mailed for 10c. Descriptive price-list free. LEWIS ROESCH, Fredonia, N.Y.

STRAWBERRIES AND FINE FRUIT.

Do you intend planting any Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries or other small fruit plants, Roses or novelties? Send for my 60-page catalogue and the best report on strawberries ever published. Free.

BRANDT. BOX 311. BREMEN, OHIO.

Roses

How to get the best, and how to grow them successfully—that's the text of our new

Guide to Rose Culture

for 1894. It tells you how to get the famous D. & C. Roses on their own roots; gives the very latest and best information for the culture of all kinds of

flowers. We send it free to anyone, together with a sample copy of our interesting floral Magazine

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THE DINGEE & CONARD CO.

Rose Growers and Seedsmen, West Grove, Pa.

Mention this paper when you write.

SPRAY YOUR FRUIT TREES & VINES

Stahl's Double Acting Excelsior Spray outfit prevents Leaf Blight & Wormy Fruit. Insures a heavy yield of all fruit and vegetable crops. Thousands in use. Send 25c for catalogue and full treatise on spraying. Circulars free. WM. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.

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Burpee's seeds grow.

This is the proof of life. When grown we give our word you will be satisfied—your success is ours. BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL for 1894, 172 pages, tells all about the Best Seeds that Grow. The newspapers call it the Leading American Seed Catalogue. Yours free for the asking if you plant seeds.

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO., Philadelphia.

Mention this paper when you write.

5 NAMES WANTED.

We want the names of five persons in your neighborhood, who are, or have been, agents. We will send a complete bound book, containing seventy-five complete stories by popular authors, to any one who will send us these names. Address FARM

AND FIRESIDE, Philadelphia, Pa., or

Springfield, Ohio.

The DOULTRY BEST JOURNAL.

Sent on Trial Six Months for ONLY 25 CENTS.

It is well worth \$1.00. Send stamps. Sample free.

FARM-POULTRY is the name of it. Mention this ad. I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.

Teaches How to Make Money with A Few Hens.

For 25c in stamps or money we will send by mail one pkts. each of the following rare Flower Seeds: Aster, extra choice

mixed; Balsams, new double English Show; Dianthus

Eastern Queen, most beautiful of all; Celosia; Glasgow;

Grand Prize; Cosmos Hybridus, best and finest mixed

Poppy, new Golden Gate; Pansies; Imperial German De-

fiante; Phlox drummondii, Wilson's choice strain; Ver-

benas, new mammoth large flowering; Zinnias new double

crested and curled; one Splendid Climbing Plant; one

beautiful Everlasting Flower; in all 12 full size pkts.

With directions for cultivating for 25 cts. Five Collec-

tions, \$1.00. Our beautiful illus. 112 page Catalogue ac-

companies each order. Address SAMUEL WILSON,

Seed Grower, MECHANICSVILLE, PA.

For 25c in stamps or money we will send by mail one pkts. each of the following rare Flower Seeds: Aster, extra choice

mixed; Balsams, new double English Show; Dianthus

Eastern Queen, most beautiful of all; Celosia; Glasgow;

Grand Prize; Cosmos Hybridus, best and finest mixed

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benas, new mammoth large flowering; Zinnias new double

crested and curled; one Splendid Climbing Plant; one

beautiful Everlasting Flower; in all 12 full size pkts.

Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

SELF-SHADING POULTRY-HOUSE.

THE design of the poultry-house in this issue is to permit of affording shade underneath in places where there are no trees, while in the winter, three sides of the underneath run can be boarded, leaving the front open, so as to afford a shelter from the winds.

The poultry-house, the design of which is from Mr. Henry Grosser, of Kansas, is 8x12 feet, 6 feet high at the sides and 8 feet at the center. The outside is made entirely of boards, with roof boards grooved, and battens nailed over the cracks; but it would be an advantage to use tarred paper on the boards before fastening the battens, though with a two-foot pitch it is doubtful if such a roof would leak without the tarred paper. It would also be best to use lath and plaster on the inside for a cold climate. There is only one window, a large one, on the south side, which permits plenty of light to enter.

There is nothing stationary in the house, the nests and roosts being movable, so as to be taken outside in order to allow of facility in cleaning the house.

The house is set on six posts, about 18 inches over the ground, and it should cost from \$30 to \$40, according to price of material, but the cost may be lessened if built by the owner himself.

In Fig. 2 (interior arrangement), A is the door, B the window, D the dusting-box, R R R the roosts, and N the row of nest-boxes. This arrangement, however, may be varied according to preference. It will be noticed that the roosts can be placed nearer or further from the window and door as necessity demands, or they may be placed, in the winter, on the location occupied by the nests, and the nests placed on the side, nearer the door. These advantages can only be secured when the roosts and boxes are movable.

ROUP AND ITS CURE.

Nearly every inquiry that comes to us relates to roup, and while we have over and over again given information in regard to it, yet there are new readers every month, and they desire to know what is killing off their fowls. A great many ailments are ascribed to roup, such as swelled heads and eyes, discharges from the nostrils, hoarse breathing, sore throat and the results of "catching cold" in any form. Canker (sore throat) and some other indications may be noticed in a whole flock, as the disease is contagious. When a very foul odor is noticed, it is a sure sign of malignant roup. The ventilator and drafts of air cause roup in the majority of cases.

Roup does not kill quickly. It may ap-

peal in a flock and remain for months. The poultryman will notice his hens gradually drooping, becoming very thin in flesh, and finally dying, or he may find some of them breathing as though they had the croup. Then again, he will discover a few of them with their eyes swollen and closed, or they will constantly sneeze and have a discharge from the nostril. Examination of the throat may show a white substance, or patches of white on the roof of the mouth, as in diphtheria.

How to cure the roup is a mystery not yet solved, as medicine cannot be administered except at the expense of labor in handling them. It does not pay to give a hen a dose of medicine every fifteen minutes, as in the case of a sick human, and many persons who try remedies find that

they fail because they can only give a dose or two. If the fowl does not get well when medicine is given in the feed, the task of attempting to cure is abandoned; yet, when a fowl is sick it often refuses food altogether, and receives no remedy.

As a rule, all sick fowls will drink, hence all medicines should be given in the drinking-water, and as all the birds will drink from the same vessel, the medicine must be of a character to disinfect, and also destroy the disease in the sick fowl. A teaspoonful of liquid carbolic acid is the best for this purpose, added to one gallon of water, or a teaspoonful of a solution of permanganate of potash in a quart of water. Fresh, air-slaked lime should be dusted daily over the floor, walls,

on the little chicks, that has destroyed thousands of them. If the attendant will keep his brooder-house warm, and not allow any fresh air in until he notices that the chicks are dying from the effects of foul air, he will never have to open a ventilator. If the little chicks are thriving in warm air, there is no reason for giving them fresh air. If they are thrifty, it is all that is required, and it is not wise to incur the risk of killing them with cold. It is a difficult matter to keep them as warm as they should be, even with the best of care, without letting the cold air in.

DO LICE EXIST IN WINTER?

Some of our subscribers complain that lice annoy their fowls even in the winter season, and in such states as Kansas and Nebraska. Very cold weather should destroy lice, but it is possible that where a great many fowls are together, the animal heat is sufficient to cause the lice to be active. Those on the bodies of the hens are protected, especially the large lice on the heads. It will not be best to drench the poultry-house at this season, unless on a clear, dry day, but air-slaked lime may be freely used. Insect-powder should be used on the hens.

This may be done by mixing one part insect-powder with four parts finely-sifted coal ashes, the hen to be rolled over in the mixture, and also held head downward, so as to get it well into the feathers. A few drops of sweet-oil, well rubbed on the head and neck, will destroy the large head-lice. It is the large kind that cause the hens to gradually droop, lose flesh and finally die of exhaustion.

COOPS FOR BROODS.

If the hens hatch out broods, small coops with runs must be provided. The chicks must not be allowed to go outside of the runs until they are well feathered, as they may stray off too far from the hen and fall over with cold before they can reach her to secure warmth. In spring and summer the chicks are allowed their liberty, while the hen is confined, but this cannot be done in winter, as the season is too unfavorable for the chicks. Feed them five times a day, on dry food, as soft or wet food will become frozen and useless.

FOREIGN INNOVATIONS.

In New York City there is a demand for broilers that have no yellow legs. This sounds strange for an American city, but it is all owing to the fact that the hotels and restaurants are employing French "chefs," or head cooks, who have a prejudice against yellow skin. The yellow-skin fowl still holds its place at the front, but the chick is supposed to be best when the skin is white. Now, if some foreign cooks will demand scalded fowls, it will save a vast amount of tedious work in "dry-picking" birds for market.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Eggs Laid by Different Breeds.—E. H. writes: "What is the average number of eggs laid annually by Brown Leghorns, Langshans, Wyandottes, Houdans, and which breeds are the best winter layers?"

REPLY:—It depends on how they are managed, and it is also difficult to estimate. The following is about the average: Leghorns, 130; Langshans, 120; Wyandottes, 120; Houdans, 125; the Brahma being considered equal to any as winter layers. There is but little difference in the averages of the breeds for a year.

Plucking Ducks.—Mrs. S. M. K., Thompson, Tenn., writes: "Which month should be the one for plucking white ducks?"

REPLY:—It should be done in the summer or fall, when they are about to molt, as the feathers will then be "ripe," and come out easily.

Mites.—E. W. R., Parker, Kan., writes: "Which is the best method for destroying mites?"

REPLY:—There should be none in winter. Dust every portion of the poultry-house—floor, walls, ceiling, etc.—with air-slaked lime.

Disinfectant.—E. L., Independence, Mo., writes: "How can a poultry-house be disinfected in order to destroy the germs of roup?"

REPLY:—Close the house, first stopping up all cracks, and setting fire to a pound of sulphur, by using a red-hot shovel for that purpose. Keep the house closed for an hour.

Winter Hatching.—J. D. B., Enterprise, Kan., writes: "Will it pay to allow the sitting hens to hatch out broods at this season?"

REPLY:—Not unless you have warm quarters for the hens and broods, and can give them careful attention.

Poultry Do Have

ROUP, **CANKER,** **Rheumatism,** **LEG WEAKNESS.** These diseases. The first is what diphtheria is to human beings, and closely allied to that disease. Symptoms are, sneezing like a cold; slight watering of the eyes; running at the nostrils, severe inflammation in the throat, canker, swollen head and eruptions on head and face. A breeder of fighting game fowl which from their habits, are more liable to roop than others, gives us a TREATMENT, which he says is a POSITIVELY SURE CURE for the

ROUP

By the use of

JOHNSON'S

Anodyne Liniment

Space here will not permit giving his full directions for use. Send to us for full particulars, by mail, free. It also cures all Bowel Complaints, Leg Weakness and Rheumatic Lameness like magic. Sold everywhere. Price, 35c, 6 bottles, \$2.00, Express paid. Pamphlet free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

Mention this paper when you write.

EGGS CHEAP.

From choice selected Pure Bred Poultry, of the most noted prize winning strains. Stamp for fine illustrated catalogue. B. H. GREIDER, Florin, Pa.

2,000 FOWLS

for sale from 50 varieties. Send 3-cent stamp for illustrated Catalogue. Chas. Gammeltinger, Columbus, O.

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Our Fireside.

WITH A CUP AND SAUCER.

I send my love a fragile china cup,
With purple violets painted 'round the rim;
Empty it is, but sweet thoughts fill it up,
And peep like tricky elves above the rim.

Upon a saucer fashioned like a heart,
Of palest tint, my dainty cup is set—
Dear emblem, symbolizing life's better part—
How can she look upon it and forget?

The charin I drop within the cup is such
That every draught a tender thought will bring.
The crinkled leaves will brighten at her touch,
The flowers will know a mystic blossoming.

Poor pictured violets, that never grew
In ferny nooks nor felt a summer shower!
To hearts that hate the false and love the true
There is sadness in a painted flower.

But go, my gift, and as my lady sips
Her creamy cocoa or her fragrant tea,
Thy happy rim may perchance touch her lips,
And bring to her a fleeting thought of me!

—Housefurnishing Review.

[Copyrighted by Lou V. Chapin.]

SOOY'S "SIXTH."

BY LOU V. CHAPIN.

ILLUSTRATED BY WILL E. CHAPIN.

TAIN'T in nature," said Mat, giving the dish-cloth a vicious twist and an energetic shake preparatory to hanging it on a nail, "tain't in nature, an' I fer one won't stan' it. Here's pap with four sets of young uns now, an' a row clean 'cross the front of our lot in the buruin'-groun' of stones, 'Sacred to the mem'ry of diseased wife of Hamilton Sooy.' Seems as if that man would be 'shamed to marry 'gin, but there he is makin' eyes at Miss' Roberts."

Mat seized the broom and swept the floor with an energy that emphasized her objection.

"To be sure, mam's been dead mos' a year, an' a year's a long time fer pap to stay single, but one ud think he'd had 'nuff of matrimony fer one while, 'specielly when it's usually fatal. Now, my mamm, you know, wuz his first, an' me an' Gab's her only childurn. After she'd been dead 'bout six months, he married your mam an' brought her home. Then you-wuz born, an' that mamm died. He wuz a widower mos' two years that time, but las, twa'nt his fault, fer I've been tol' that he sparked four diff'rent girls in that time. Then, he married Jane Blackburn. I wuzn't quite nine when she come to keep house fer him, an' I liked her well 'nuff, fer she treated us childurn well an' never scolded and carried on like his fourth. Tom an' John's her childurn. That fourth of pap's wuz a nuisance, and I wuz mighty glad when she picked up an' lef' on the sly with a travelin' photographe man. Jen wuz only a baby an' George, her other chil', wuzn't more'n two years ol'. She wuz killed on the railroad a few weeks after, when the train she an' the feller wuz on run off the track, an' a good riddance 'twas."

Mat glanced at Jennie, who sat on the step, her plump hands clasped across her knee, but that young lady had heard the tale so often that she showed no emotion.

"Miss' Roberts is good lookin'," interposed Ellie, an' "I guess she's good tempered. She's only got one boy, an' he's grown up, an' her farm's a mighty good one. She ain't more'n forty, an' I can't see what she wants to take up with pap fer, but you can't tell what them widders will do."

"There never wuz sech a mixed-up family as this is," continued Mat, making the dust fly, "an' when you come to talk of mixin' it some more, I'm jes' out of all manner of patience."

"Whut are you goin' to do 'bout it?" queried Ellie, anxiously. "Pap's as set in his ways as the fence posts, an' jes' 'bout as yielidin' when his min' is made up."

"I don't know what to do, but somethin' mus' be done. I've been through so much with pap's marryin' scrapes, bein' the oldies' of all his childurn, that I know I'll go ravin' crazy if I have to put up with any more."

Mat Sooy was a tall, lank spinster of two and thirty, with a face that might be considered one of nature's freaks of economy, for the odds and ends of several types of visage seemed to have been used in its make-up. The forehead, cheek-bones and eye-sockets were thin, not to say cadaverous, but the chin and lower jaws were round and heavy, though set above a bony and yellow neck. Her eyes slanted several degrees toward her long, thin nose, and as one was blue and the other gray, and they were of different sizes—though both were considerably smaller than the correct proportion when compared to the size of her face—one had the impression in gazing upon her, that she was a composition of an anatomical junk-shop. In spite of these defects of person, Mat was a woman "that could be depended on," as she herself often said, and had the family credit much at heart.

The individual referred to as "pap" was, at the moment when his dutiful daughters were commenting on his tendencies toward matrimony, thoughtfully smoking a corn-cob pipe, in the shadow of the cherry-tree not far from the front door. Although it was Sunday morning, he had not yet begun the weekly ceremony of "takin' a clean shave," and arraying himself in the butternut-colored suit of store clothes, which, though they had done duty for many a year, were still presentable, barring a few shiny indications at the seams and a bagging at the knees of the trousers, which allowed six or seven inches of the legs of their owner's boots to be visible, when he was dressed "in his Sunday best."

Mr. Hamilton Sooy, or as he was familiarly known, Ham Sooy, seemed on this particular Sunday morning to be cogitating upon some weighty matter. Like his eldest offspring, he was "not much on looks," as he expressed it himself, with a mysterious emphasis that led the hearer to infer that there were several other things, however, in which he was a prodigy. He was tall and lank, with sandy hair, eyebrows and complexion, and features suggestive, appropriately enough in conjunction with his prevailing sandiness, of flint and gravel. The smallpox had at some remote

and won more prizes in the tourney of Hymen than usually falls to the lot of men, and was even now bent on another conquest. He was deliberating over his plan of campaign, holding, as it were, a counsel of war with himself. Should he marry the widow, or should he not?

Of course, Mat would make a fuss, and Ellie would follow her lead. His acquaintances would make uncomplimentary remarks, but those, of course, would be set down to the account of envy, for the widow was unquestionably fair. Was he in love with her? Well, Ham Sooy had no foolish notions on that score. He was seven and fifty, and knew "a good thing when he saw it," he said to himself with a chuckle. He had loved his first wife, if he remembered rightly, though that was so long ago and so much had happened since, that he had almost forgotten the sensations he had experienced when courting her. She had been "a good worker," and had worked herself into her grave some twenty-five years before our narrative opens, leaving a son and a daughter; the latter, Martha, and the former named Granville, habitually referred to by the family as Gabe. He was the shyest and most tongue-tied of bachelors. Ham's second—he was accustomed to speak of his various wives

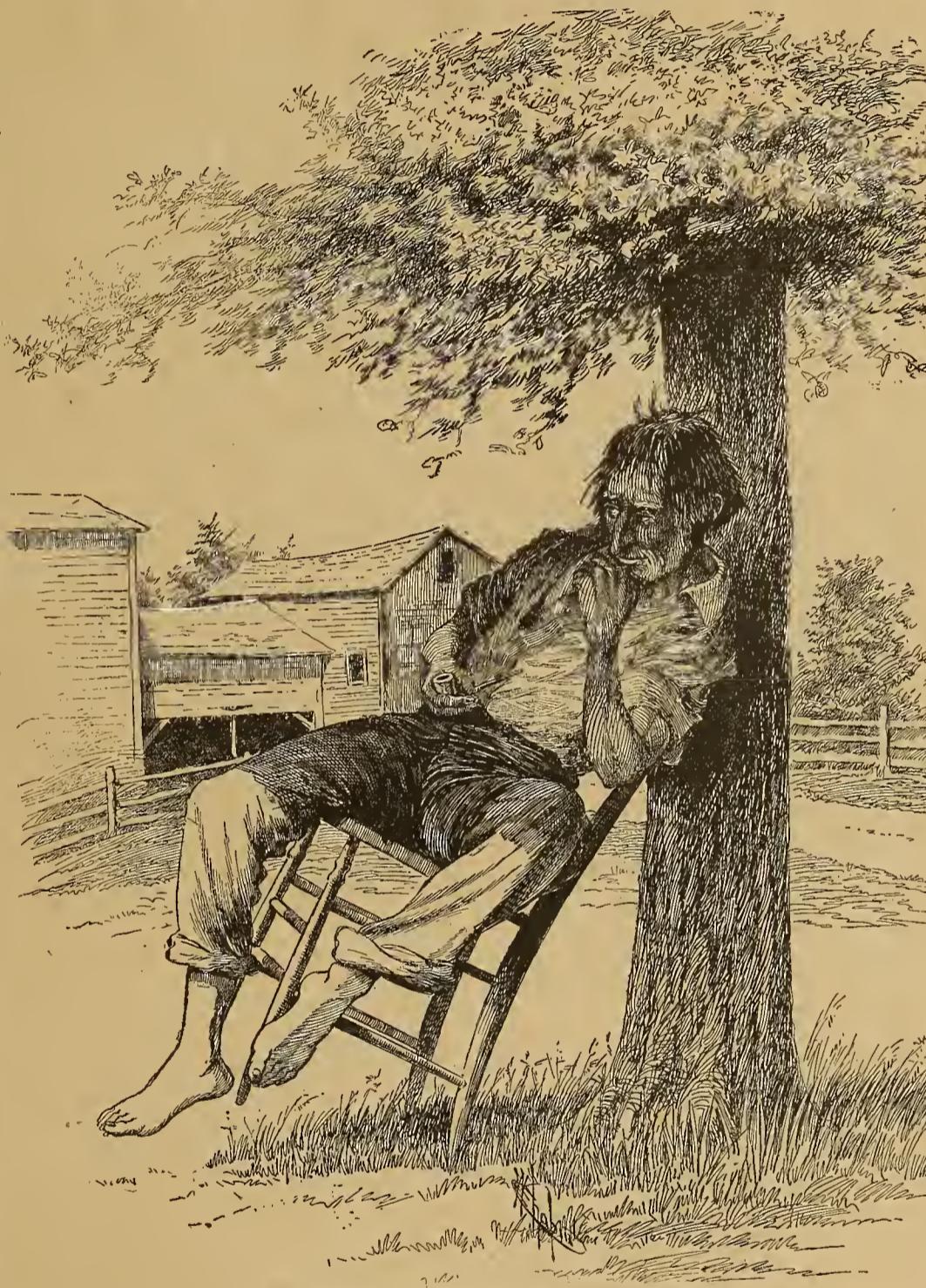
and negatives, accomplished a positive disappearance from her husband's "bed and board," as Ham stated in the advertisement, calling upon all the world to refuse to give her credit in his name.

Ham had been uncomfortable with his "fourth," and was secretly rejoiced when he heard of her death. He waited nearly a year before he married again, and then besought a meek and hard-worked country girl on an adjoining farm to be his "fifth." She would have refused him, but he had first consulted her father, as though the matter was one in which she could not but concur. Her father had some dealings with Sooy, involving principal and interest, and in consideration of the canceling of certain obligations by the woer of his daughter, commanded her to marry the obliging creditor. The poor creature had never possessed sufficient courage to defy her parent, and therefore submitted. It was of this last wife that Ham thought with the nearest approach to tenderness, which his heart, grown callous with his many losses, marital, and gains material, was capable. He had several tranquil years with her, and although she was overworked and imposed upon, she never complained. She died silently and patiently as she had lived. One morning she did not rise as usual, and when Ham turned over in bed for his last and sweetest nap, before the cares of the day were gathered up, he informed her that it was time to get up and call the boys and make the kitchen fire. She did not answer or move. In a few minutes Mat came into the room to investigate the unwonted absence of "mam" from the kitchen, and saw at a glance that the woman was dead. That was nearly a year ago, and Ham was thinking that he was a young man yet and that the widow Roberts would admirably fill the vacancy at his fireside, if there could exist a vacancy where he and his seven children clustered. The fireside of the Sooys was literal and not figurative, as most firesides are in these days of stoves.

Egypt, which claimed Ham Sooy as its own, clung to the good old ways. "The house that wuz good 'nuff fer granddad is good 'nuff fer me," was a favorite expression with the Egyptians, and though the broad acres extending in rolling beauty of woodland and cleared farms in the richest and most fertile portion of Illinois yielded their annual tribute of fruit and grain, which in their turn were converted into good dollars, no "senseless splurge" was encouraged in Egypt, and certainly not by Ham Sooy, its bright and shining ornament. His house would have been considered spacious in the primitive days, which are not so long past away in this western country that some of us do not still remember them, and as I am writing from the standpoint of the locality, I will not decry his dwelling. It was "double"—that is, the main room had long served every purpose of sitting-room, kitchen and bedchamber when the "addition" was built. This "addition" was in the shape of a right angle, set before the original structure and containing two rooms side by side, one in the rear and a slant-roofed shed. There were in reality two front rooms, each with an outside door, but the apartment considered as "the front room" was so built—perhaps that it might not be approached with too much haste and irreverence—that three awkward steps led to it from the other, which was the "living-room."

It is said that environment influences character, and I have been specific in regard to Ham Sooy's surroundings, in order that those who hold to that belief may, if they so elect, trace in them the molding power that they are supposed to exert. The interior of the house was like that of many others in Egypt. In the living-room the great fireplace allowed the smoke and heat to escape together in the winter season, as those cheerful relics of past savagery are wont to do. It is quite possible that some of the redness and weakness of the Sooy eyes was due to this revered institution, which, by the way, is a favorite with poets brought up in the benign atmosphere of the furnace and steam-heater. Those who gathered about the Sooy fireside when the thermometer was in its most dejected mood, were compelled to freeze resignedly half way through, and roast with equal resignation the other half way, a suffering only a little less tolerable than the whole of one or the other. This process continued "in season" for years, may also influence character, and I call attention to it for the benefit of those interested in the environment theory.

The furniture of this living-room consisted of seven or eight straight-backed chairs, originally "split-bottomed," but many of them now covered on the seat with sheepskin or patchwork; a chest of drawers, on the top of which was a miscellaneous litter of almanacs, newspapers, rolls of needlework, tobacco, pipes and school-hooks, and a bedstead of a dark-red color, which supported four posts, the top of each one bearing an ornament in size and shape resembling a baseball, more or less defaced by time and the jack-knives of juvenile Sooys. This bedstead was adorned with a quilt made from the scraps of the gowns of Hamilton Sooy's "various," or to



HE WAS DELIBERATING OVER HIS PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

period chipped small pieces off here and there, but the scars only served to emphasize the hardness of his countenance. His cheekbones were high, his nose long and thin, his mouth wide, thin-lipped and presenting the appearance of a slightly-puckered seam. His eyes had the same oriental cast already noted in "Mat," were equally small, and constitutionally red and watery. His face was destitute of any hirsute adornment, though he wore under his chin a wisp of the color and fineness of broom-corn. This ornamental appendage seemed to have some occult connection with Mr. Hamilton Sooy's organ of meditation, for every time that he gave it an extra twist as he sat under the cherry-tree smoking, his attitude assumed a deeper thoughtfulness. The morning was hot, and with that cheerful disregard of looks upon which he sometimes prided himself, Ham had removed his shoes and stockings, turned down the collar and as much of the surrounding fabric of his blue-check shirt as could be turned down, and rolled up the sleeves as far as they would go. In this stage of decolletage he presented a picture that might have daunted the widow Roberts, could she have beheld it.

A casual observer could not have explained which was the attraction possessed by Hamilton Sooy, that made him a favorite with the fair sex, but he had, as Mat truthfully averred, broken many a lance on the field of love,

as his "first," "second," "third," and so on, as though they were the elements in an acrostic—his second had been equally dutiful, and Jane Blackburn, though she had her faults, was a good housekeeper and worth her keep, though he couldn't keep her, for she died after a brief period of matrimonial bliss. Ham's fourth had been won in a single afternoon. She was an itinerant book agent, who called at the farm-house one day, when Ham was for the third time a widower. His wife had been dead five months, and he was trying to keep house for his family himself, with the aid of his eldest, then but a child.

There were those of his neighbors who declared that "Ham Sooy was so stingy that he would skin a flea for the sake of its hide, if the hide had a market value," and hinted that he thought it cheaper to marry than to hire a girl to take care of his children. At all events, he proposed to the book agent on half an hour's acquaintance, was accepted and married the same afternoon. She lived a stormy life with him for three years. She had married him in a moment of desperation, for she had struggled against adversity, and though she had plenty of "prospects," had no prospects to speak of. Then she met an old flame in the person of a traveling creator of tin-type monstrosities, whom she had known in her youth, before the blight of unoward fortune had touched them both, and hidden away in his heart, among his ehemicals

speak more reverently, his five dear departed, and Ham nightly repose under this melancholy canopy, made all the more melancholy because Ellie and Mat, who had "pieced" it in their leisure and "set it together" with orange-colored calico, recalled daily at sight of it the family afflictions. His slumbers were loud if not deep, for Ham, though not a volatile man when he was awake, gasped, moaned and talked in his sleep, as though the pork and pies upon which he banqueted were rising up in judgment against him.

It is hardly necessary to describe the splendors of the sacred best room, for its wax flowers under a glass shade; its corner what-not ornamented with two red and white plaster of Paris dogs; its shell-covered boxes on the high, blue, wood mantel; its lamp with a bit of red flannel in the oil to give it an aesthetic appearance; its plush-covered photograph album; its blue paper shades, whereon stands depicted flowers and fruits whose originals never grew in any gardens of earth, or the depths of the sea; its black hair-cloth furniture with puffs of red plush about the seats of the chairs and the short sofa; its high-heaped, white-draped bed and its striped rug carpet, in which black is the predominating tóne, have we not all seen them a thousand times in farm-houses from the Atlantic to the Pacific? The bedrooms were really rooms for beds, which fact will be apparent when we recall that three of them accommodated the eight Sooys, for of course none of the family, except in case of illness, ever occupied the bed in "the front room."

Ham's stinginess never took the form of denying himself any of the good things of the pantry, and his family partaking with him, were always well fed, though like the Sooy grunters that roamed in the timber on the ancestral acres, the more they ate the hungrier-looking and lanker they were—all except Jen, the plump, nineteen-year-old offspring of Ham's "fourth," the recreant book agentess. Jennie Sooy was the black sheep of this model flock. While all the other Sooys were sandy, lean and weak-eyed, Jen had hair of the warmest brown, tangling in he-witching curls about a face that was rosy with good health and sparkling with mischief. She had dimples at the corner of her red mouth, and a dimple, too, in each round cheek. Her dark eyes were large and expressive. Amid the prevailing sandiness of the family she bloomed like a wild rose transplanted by accident and growing by a miracle in an uncongenial soil and climate. Her mother had been fair, though wayward, and it may be that Jen's beauty was inherited. At all events, she was so un-Sooy-like that the family, especially the two spinsters, held a grudge against her for it. They had, however, never been positively unkind to Jennie, but they had left her to herself as an incorrigible.

She had roamed the woods barefooted and bareheaded since she was a tiny child. She had met and baffled all the infantile diseases that usually descended upon the Sooy flock and laid them all low at one fell swoop. Her curly head had some wilful notions, which were fostered by the fact that her tastes made her virtually an outcast from the family. Even her tallow-faced brother George, a year or senior, shared in the feeling that she was a "ne'er-do-well." From her earliest days, whenever she failed in the performance of anything that was expected of her—which was not seldom—she was accustomed to hear it said, "What can you expect of her, when you remember her mother?" Jenie respected her mother in her heart for escaping the Sooy environment, even under such questionable escort as that of the traveling tintypers, and wondered how any woman of spirit could live contentedly with her father, who was the embodiment of sordid selfishness.

Jen was exceedingly unpopular in the neighborhood. She hated drudgery, and though she could bake dainty pastry, and make the whitest of bread and the sweetest of butter when the notion seized her, she would not slave at the wash-tuh, the churn and the cook-stove as did her sisters. Neither would she spin and knit; for though the rest of the world buys its hosiery ready made and its carpets ready woven, in Egypt the thrifty among the matrons and maids, barefooted and scantily clad in the long summer days, for convenience and comfort, still pace back and forth, drawing into yarn to the music of the spinning-wheel, the snowy "rolls," carded by their hands in the long winter evenings. They dye the yarn, too, and knit it into stockings. Jennie had a contempt for such labor.

"It's jus' nonsense," she said. "I ain't going to spin an' weave when such things are cheaper ready made than you can possibly make them. Dad's able to buy me the things I want, an' he shall, too. If he don't, I'll buy 'em myself an' charge 'em to him."

And she did, stemming the torrent of his reproachful eloquence thereafter with unmoved countenance, for Ham could become eloquent when his pocket-book was assailed.

Jennie took to books, though this, along with her other failings, was attributed to in-

herited weakness. "Her mother wuz in the book line, you know, an' we've jes' got to put up with Jen, whether or no," her sisters would say, though they both secretly envied her acquirements, and her handiness with the pen. When Jennie was a little girl she had more than once been chastised for reading under the shelter of the currant-bushes, from which retreat the calls for her presence would remain unanswered, and search for her would prove unavailing. The "Scottish Chiefs" and other heroes of romance filled her fancy, and the stirring scenes among which she wandered in the old romances which were available to her, made for her an ideal world in which she dwelt when the real world about her became unbearable, for Jenie had a fresh fancy and a lively craving for the refined and beautiful in life.

Jenue was, as I have already said, sitting on the step of the kitchen porch. She was idly watching the swaying branches of the locust-trees, and paying no heed to the talk of her sisters, until Mat spoke of the widow Roberts. Then she turned toward them with some show of interest. The widow Roberts had a handsome son, who was employed in a distant city. Jennie had known him all her life, but of late she had evinced a special interest in the young fellow, and when they chanced to meet, on the occasions of his flying

tions had achieved, and pouring her longings and her dreams in the ears of the sympathizing George—dangerous confidences for both and making them tempting marks for the sly archer, Cupid.

Jennie, therefore, may be excused for having an interest in Mrs. Roberts. She looked up and said:

"Mrs. Roberts wouldn't marry dad; she's got too much sense."

"Pap puts his hes' foot foremos' when she's rouu', an' you'd think butter wouldn't melt in his mouth," answered Mat drearily. "When he takes to spruciu' up on week-days an' to callin' on a woman that ain't got a husban', I know what's comin'. I've seen it too often not to. Las a me! I've seen so much marryin' in this family that I'm plum disgusted with the whole subjec'. Ellie an' me both might have married years ago ef pap hadn't made himself a laughing stock. Gabe wuz dead in love with Sallie Rousey, an' I verily believe she'd a-married him ef pap hadn't been a widower 'bout the time he wuz makin' up to her, an' acsually cut Gabe out, though he didn't marry Sallie after all, fer he foun' a girl that wuz a better worker—Tom an' John's mam, you know. Gabe'll never marry now."

"Pap ain't a beauty," remarked Ellie, "but he does have a way with women when he's courtin' 'em. Sometimes I biuk it's his very

feet, when he caue out of his reverie with a start which precipitated the front legs of the split-bottom chair to the ground with such force that the corn-cob pipe fell off the stem and rolled into Ham's bosom, scattering heated ashes and half-burned tobacco upon his manly chest. He was constrained, thereupon, to spring to his feet with a muttered anathema, and drew in his breath, so that his trouser's waistband, which he held away from his person with both bands, might thus be made loose enough to allow of the escape down their legs of the contents of the pipe and that article itself. Once aroused, Ham did not again abandon himself to his day dreams.

"It's 'bout-time—fer meetin'," he said to himself, with a singular sort of hesitation between every two or three words, as though he hardly knew himself what was coming. This was one of Ham's peculiarities, and it gave his conversation an uncanny sort of fascination for a stranger, who could never tell from Mr. Sooy's inflections whether he was through a sentence, whether he had forgotten his subject, or meant to continue indefinitely. Though his words halted thus, Ham was not lacking in decision. "I guess—I'll go," he continued, and proceeded to the house with the long, loose-jointed stride common to very tall people.

The Sooy equipage of state was a "spring-wagon," whose "spring" had long since departed. It was commonly drawn by two frowsy mules, who looked as though they had been put away and forgotten for a long time, and when remembered at last and brought forth, were found to be badly moth-eaten, but still fit for service. With no hope of posterity and no pride of ancestry, these dejected animals went their earthly way with lagging gait and hanging head. Age and poor feeding had reduced in them even the natural obstinacy of mule nature, and save when one or the other lifted up a despairing lament, they were silent and submissive. When the mules, attached to the "spring-wagon," had stood some fifteen minutes before the door of the living-room, and Mat and Ellie had waited their sire for that space of time with audible impatience, Ham made his appearance. Mat remarked under her breath, as he climbed into his seat, that "pap is slicked up uncommonly."

Ham's red hair was parted a little to the left, and plastered as tight on either side of his face as though he had used gum arabic in the process. It fell in uncompromising stiffness and smoothness to his collar, being cut off squarely around in the hygine Egyptian fashion that went out with the rest of the world about the time Henry Clay went to dust, but immortal both as Clay and dust in the hearts of his countrymen—according to the Fourth of July orators, who used to spout before patriotism, too, went out. His cowhide boots were greased until they were resplendent; that is, they were resplendent below the ankle-boots; but between it and the edge of the butter-nut trousers they were of the color and flexibility of old stove-pipe that has lain long in the weather, though this rather enhanced their brilliancy in the place where the public is supposed to have the most interest in boots. A "lay-down" linen collar adorned his neck, and it was further garnished by a brick-red necktie, a bit of levity that made Mat almost shed tears.

During the service at the church, which on week-days served as a school-house, Ham's eldest offspring wore an expression of settled melancholy, which deepened whenever she glanced across the room to the place where her father sat "on the meu's side," for it was not considered seemly in Egypt for the sexes to be seated together in the house of the Lord. Mat noticed that her father kept his eyes persistently fixed on the face of the fair widow Roberts, and when Brother Williamson called upon him to "lead in the opening prayer," he kept in such a position that he could watch the effect of his position upon the object of his interest. Why Ham always delivered this prayer with such unctiousness, is one of the unfathomable mysteries of nature. At least every second Sunday he was called upon to "lead," and for fifteen years the form of his petition had never once been varied, except as the vicissitudes of his personal experience led him to substitute "third" for "second," and "fourth" and "fifth" likewise. It ran thus, and every member of the congregation knew it by heart, and could have repeated it from beginning to end without an error. Nevertheless, Ham always delivered it as though it were a fresh hit of devotional oratory, pausing in the same places every time. After telling the maker of heaven and earth the fact that he was the maker, and should have great credit therefore, he proceeded to inform him that men were exceedingly sinful. He then prayed for the world in general, and the heathen in foreign lands in particular, though why he should have discriminated between them and the heathen in our own country is not quite plain. This done, he began with the president of the United States and prayed systematically through both houses of Congress, finally reaching his own neighborhood. After



JENNIE WAS SITTING ON THE STEP OF THE KITCHEN PORCH.

visits to his mother, they sometimes strolled to church together, or sat chatting in the twilight very much as lovers do. If George Roberts had paid any such particular attention to any other girl in the neighborhood, except Jennie Sooy, the gossips and matchmakers would have had much to say concerning it, for in Egypt slight straws, indeed, were used as indicating the set of the matrimonial wind; but, of course, such an eligible person as the widow's son would not "take up with shif'less Jen Sooy."

Nevertheless, George Roberts found her very fair and winning, and sympathized with her aspirations and dreams, for Egypt is not so far outside the great, busy world that thrills of awakened consciousness do not sometimes disturb its calm. Young men from its farms have won fame and fortune in the centers of commerce, and some of them have married among the daughters of the Egyptians, and carried them away to grace their homes. From time to time traditions of the doings of these native Egyptians in the society of cities and watering-places had reached the neighborhood where they passed their youth, exciting awe and admiration, but never the desire, in the main, of emulation. Their doings were commonly considered rather unholy than otherwise, and they themselves renegades. Jennie, however, thirsted for the larger liberty that these expatriated Egyp-

tiants had achieved, and charms 'em, jes' like a snake charms a bird."

"Come now, Ellie, don't you be ourespectful to pap, even ef he is aggarvatin'," Mat replied. "It's time to get ready fer church, so come long. Brother Williamson preaches to-day, an' I wouldn't miss it fer a lot. He's a mighty good man on exhortin'. Ef anybody ever needed spiritooal comfort, I'm that one, an' I ain't ashamed to own it."

Mat and Ellie betook themselves to the shed room, which served as a bower for the three sisters, and proceeded to array themselves in skimp white gowns, which displayed all of their incongruities of face and form with startling force. While Ellie braided her tow-colored hair at the little glass, that had reflected her features daily for nine and twenty years, she said musingly:

"Mat, I b'lieve Jen likes George Roberts. S'posin', now, she'd marry George and pap ud marry the widder—"

"Don't," groaned Mat. "I know what you're goin' to say. You're goin' to ask what relation the widder's childern, ef she had any, would be to Jen's, an' what relation they'd all be to us. Don't say no more, fer I'm tryin' to git my min' ou solem' subjec's, an' to meditate."

Ham sat in the shade until it gradually shifted to the other side of the tree, and the hot July sun began to heat on his uncovered

more petitionary perambulating than the reader would have patience to follow, about the time the knees of the congregation ached with weariness, and their amens had died into feeble whispers, then he "did" himself, usually in these words:

"I've been through scenes and unseens; I've lost—two or three or four, as his afflictions multiplied—I've lost—five wives—an' am the father of a family—of childern—an' I've never—seen—the righteous—forsaken," meaning, of course, himself, "nor—their seed—begin—their bread." After this he would close with a poetical quotation, which he had paraphrased and otherwise altered to suit the purpose, but which he found originally on a tombstone in an old graveyard. "Lord—go gently—with us—down the declivity," here Ham's false set of upper teeth usually fell with a grisly clatter upon his lower, and in his efforts to replace them without manual aid, he chewed the word "declivity" with frightful mouthings. In truth, all through his prayer those false teeth gave him more or less trouble, from the fact that during the week they reposed in a glass of water in the kitchen pantry, and were only worn when the butternut suit was brought forth and Ham went abroad, whether to court the widow, or to worship God or mammon. "Go gently with us—down the declivity of time, be with us in—death an' in heaven save us—for Chris'—sake. Amen."

To-day, however, instead of noting his marital misfortunes, Ham made a daring innovation at which the congregation wondered, some of the younger members tittered audibly, and Mat, with her face buried in the depths of her handkerchief, gnashed her teeth in impotent despair. "Thou knowest, oh Lord," said Ham, "that I am a pore, lone man—needin' the comfort of—a tender tech—wantin' a lovin'—companion to walk—with me down—the hill of life. I ain't worthy—I'm a pore cretur—but I ain't ashamed to own my needs—an' I ask to have 'em satisfied—" Mat heard no more. She knew that this public declaration had not been made by her cautious "pap" without a reasonable hope that his wishes were to be speedily gratified, and felt that it was equivalent to a publication of the bans.

The widow's face had flushed rosy red as Ham proceeded, and she gave him an imploring glance, which he answered with an assuring smile as he arose from his knees. The "meetin'" was such a success that Ham's petition was quite forgotten, save by those most deeply interested therein, yet its effect upon Ellie and Mat was such that neither could extract the customary consolation from the eloquence of Brother Williamson, and though the services were of that turbid and noisy kind known as "revival," they did not enjoy as usual the woes of the "convicted" who flocked to the mourner's bench. Many of these persons systematically back-slid as soon as the revival was over, but were periodically frightened back into the fold by the depiction of the terrors in store for the unregenerate. At such times as they were "renewed," they told with relish how sinful they had formerly been and how now they meant to feed on heavenly manna every day in the week. The place that is said to be paved with good intentions no doubt received whole blocks of street covering at these "revivals," yet terror was never a lasting spur to noble effort, and physical excitement does not clasp hands with calm resolve.

There are those who inquire why true religion is on the wane, and why the generation that was reared with the idea of future punishment as plainly before them as their daily meals and nightly sleep, should be a generation of scoffers and unbelievers; for the religion of Egypt is only a generation behind that of the rest of the world, and was the religion of our fathers. Perhaps it may be explained by likening it to the frightening process employed by some foolish nurses. Children may be terrified into being good while they are small and ignorant, yet they look with scorn upon that method of moral suasion and those who employ it, when they are grown up and learn that there are no bob-goblins ever lying wait to devour the small boy, who is so deeply and darkly wicked as to take two spoonfuls of sugar when his mother places the whole bowlful before him and commands him only to take one, then goes about the duty of attending to her large family, regardless of boys' natural tendencies, for which he is no more responsible than he is for the color of his eyes and hair.

When "meetin'" was over, Tom and John, who had walked across the fields to church, took Ham's place behind the somnolent mules, and their father lingered about the door of the "meetin'-house," waiting for some one. Ham had given his orders to "Tom an' John," for he, like the rest of the family, always spoke of and to the lads as though they were one composite boy, each responsible for the other and unable to act independently. His orders had been brief and to the point, and Ham was always obeyed by the members of the family, Jen excepted. He had told them to "git the girls an' drive straight home; I want to see Brother Williamson on business."

Whatever Ham's business with Brother Williamson, it was concluded when he had informed him privately that he much desired to have his attendance at Mrs. Robert's house the next night but one, and enjoined him to secrecy. He waited until the widow came out, then stepped up to her side. She beld out

her hand with a charming blusb, and Ham thought: "My! ain't she pretty? She's 'bout the height of my Jen, an' not a bit plumper, though she's forty years old." He took the outstretched hand gravely. "How-dy-do—how-dy-do—Miss Roberts—hope—you're pretty well?"

[To be continued.]

A FAMOUS LABORATORY.

All of Faraday's work in the liquefaction of gases, the discovery of new hydrocarbons, the study of the changes of steel through the slight admixture of other metals, the improvement of optical glass, and the long list of results which are to-day represented in millions of tons of products from thousands of factories, were obtained within these four walls. And nothing could better illustrate the earnestness and modesty of the great chemist than a little anecdote which Professor Dewar, standing in the center of the room, calls to mind. "I never met Faraday," says he, "but Tyndall told me this story of him. The first time Tyndall entered this laboratory, Faraday led him to this point and said, 'Tyndall, this is a sacred spot. This is the spot on which Davy separated sodium and potassium.'

Moreover, it is a laboratory eminently calculated to excite the enthusiasm of anybody, being, in fact, the most famous laboratory known to chemical science. The workshop of Sir Humphry Davy, Michael Faraday and Dr. Thomas Young, to say nothing of lesser and still famous men, it is a nest in which more great discoveries have been hatched than any other of its kind on earth. Here it was that Young conducted the experiments which gave us the undulatory theory of light. Here Davy, covering, nearly a hundred years ago, almost the whole field of chemistry and electricity, made clear those principles which science and applied science since his time have developed to the marvelous degrees of to-day. A little room leading to the right of the main laboratory was the scene of all Faraday's experiments in magnetism, and a cellar on its south side is known to this day as "Davy's froggery," from the fact that Davy kept in it hundreds of live frogs for use in his experiments. Professor Dewar, whose sense of the inspiration of his surroundings is clearly deep, dwells upon them with interest, and tells how on one occasion a barrel of live frogs, imported by Davy from France, burst at the docks, causing astonishment there and consternation in the laboratory when Davy learned of his loss.

It was in this laboratory that Faraday first liquefied chlorine gas, sending thereupon the famously curt note to Dr. Paris, the biographer of Davy, in 1823:

DEAR SIR:—The oil you noticed yesterday turns out to be liquid chlorine. Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL FARADAY.

—McClure's Magazine.

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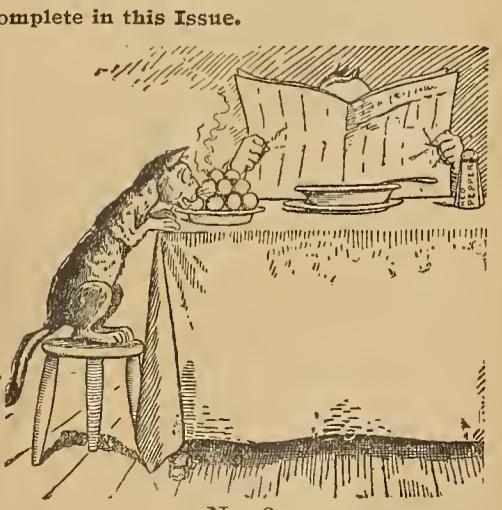
R. L. MEREDITH, Principal, Sandusky, O.

A TALE OF WOE.

In Eight Chapters, Complete in this Issue.



No. 1.



No. 2.

(See No. 3, on page 13.)

Our Household.

WHEN I WAS MARY'S BEAU.

Away down East, where I was raised, among my Yankee kith,
There used to live a pretty girl, whose name was Mary Smith;
And though it's many years since last I saw that pretty girl,
And though I feel I'm sadly worn by western strife and whir,
Still, oftentimes I think about the old familiar place,
Which oftentimes seemed brighter for Miss Mary's pretty face.
And in my heart I feel once more revivified the glow
I used to feel in those old times when I was Mary's beau.
On Friday night I'd drop around to make my weekly call,
And, though I came to visit her, I'd have to see 'em all,
With Mary's mother sitting here and Mary's father there,
The conversation never flagged so far as I'm aware;
Sometimes I'd hold her worsted, sometimes we'd play at games,
Sometimes dissect the apples which we named each other's names—
Oh, how I loathed the shrill-toned clock that told me when to go,
'Twas ten o'clock at half-past eight, when I was Mary's beau.
And Mary, should those lines of mine seek out your biding-place,
God grant they bring the old sweet smile back to your pretty face—
God grant they bring you thoughts of me, not as I am to-day,
With faltering step and dimming eyes and aspect grimly gray;
But thoughts that picture me as fair and full of life and glee
As we were in the olden time—as you shall always be,
Think of me ever, Mary, as the boy you used to know
When time was fleet and life was sweet, and I was Mary's beau.

—Eugene Field.

HOME TOPICS.

APPLE LAYER CAKE.—One of the nicest layer cakes I have ever eaten was made as follows: Cream two cups of sugar with half a cupful of butter, add the yolks of three eggs and beat together five minutes; then add a teacupful of milk and three cupfuls of flour, sifted with two teaspoonfuls of baking-powder; lastly add the whites of the eggs beaten to a stiff froth. Bake in three layers. For the filling, pare and grate two Greening apples; to the grated apples add the whites of two eggs beaten very stiffly, two teaspoonfuls of vanilla extract, and powdered sugar to sweeten. Stir this all well together and spread it between the layers of cake. It is best if eaten the same day it is made.

BEDROOM SLIPPERS.—No person should run about sleeping-rooms or into halls from bed in bare feet. There is always a layer of cold air near the floor, and carelessness in this respect is a prolific source of colds. It is therefore a good plan to keep a pair of warm slippers close to the bed, where they may be slipped on quickly before one's feet touch the floor.

The knitted or crocheted slippers, with lamb's-wool soles, are nice for this purpose, and I know one young mother who sewed up a pair of bags of eider-down flannel, put elastic in the top to draw them up around her ankles, and found them very serviceable for an entire winter.

Where there are little children the mother especially needs something of this kind, as hardly a night passes that she is not going about to give this one a drink of water, or to see that that one has not thrown off the clothes, etc.

THE VOICE.—While not everyone can become a sweet singer, yet it is possible to acquire a voice to read and speak so as to give pleasure to all who hear. Undoubtedly, some voices possess more natural sweetness than others, but all may be cultivated and improved.

This cultivation of the voice should begin during childhood; in fact, as soon as the child begins to talk. Too often at this time the little one is left almost wholly in the care of an ignorant nurse, and soon learns all her faulty speech and bad tricks of voice, which will require years to wholly eradicate, if it is ever done. Habits of speech and tones of voice, when once fixed, are very stubborn.

Parents often lavish money in a vain endeavor to teach music to a child who has no talent for it, but are extremely careless about the child's voice, as heard in con-

versation. A child should never be allowed to talk in a high, sharp key or to mumble his words and drop final letters. A drawling, whining or nasal tone should also be guarded against. Don't think that these faults will correct themselves as the child grows older, for that is a mistaken idea. It is only constant care and training that will develop a sweet-toned, clear, well-modulated voice to which it will be a pleasure to listen.

The most faultless toilet, elegance of figure and irreproachable manners can never atone for harsh, unpleasant tones of voice and a faulty articulation. Parents who are ambitious for their children's

are particularly dainty, and can be made into a number of entrees—such as patties, croquettes, fritters, salads, etc.

The head may be prepared by any of the recipes given for serving calf's head, as well as used for making head-cheese or sauce. Pigs' feet are a too well-known delicacy to require recommendation, and are acceptable fried in butter, pickled or spiced.

ELIZA R. PARKER.

NOVELTIES.

For a side-table we give an illustration of an ornamental way in which to treat it to make it an attractive piece of furniture. The cloth is heavily embroidered on felt in



ORNAMENTAL COVER FOR SIDE-TABLE.

future should consider that no charm surpasses that of a clear, richly-modulated voice and perfect enunciation. The training for this involves the discipline of both ear and vocal organs, and thereby quickens the powers of observation, an important element in education. If children once acquire this habit of voice and speech, a faulty one will never be possible.

The gift of song is bestowed upon comparatively few; but even after bad habits of speaking have been acquired, it is possible for any young person, by care and patience, to improve their voice, and surely, a charming, impressive reading and speaking voice is no slight accomplishment.

MAIDA McL.

PORK.

Country housekeepers have a very great resource at hand during the winter months in the plentiful supply of fresh pork, in the way of spareribs, backbones, tenderloins, sausage, brains and liver. Yet it is a very common experience to hear the family express their distaste for such, growing tired after a few times having such served on the table. This is in a great measure due to the sameness in cooking; the spareribs being always fried, the backbone boiled, the tenderloin made into sausage, the brains and liver thrown away. All of these may be served with a variety and daintiness that will render them acceptable during the "hog-killing season." Spareribs may be broiled, stewed, stuffed, baked or made into pie. Backbone makes a delicious roast, and the meat picked from it when cold can be used for salad, which is an excellent substitute for chicken-salad. It is made in exactly the same way. Backbones, stewed with dumplings, is a very appetizing dish.

Tenderloin may be broiled and buttered, breaded or larded, and fried, or dressed with butter and herbs, then baked inside the stove; if desired this meat can be used for salad in the same way as the backbone. Croquettes, quite as good as those made from chicken or lamb, are made of tenderloins.

Hog's-liver is very tender, and may be broiled, fried, or served in the various styles so much liked when calf's-liver is used. Excellent pudding is made of it. Brains

are a very elaborate pattern introducing gold bullion thread to liven it up.

Another novelty is the

EMPIRE APRON.—This is made of China silk, gathered with two shirrs and a stand-up ruffle. It is fastened by the ribbon bows at the upper corners, with ends crossing at the back and fastened at the waist line, with a rosette on each side. This makes a pretty serving-apron for church suppers or fairs.

L. L. C.

A SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

Miss B. had grown tired of the conventional recitation and essay entertainments, so she set her brain to work to evolve something new under the sun.

Philosophers say there is nothing new under the sun, but this was Miss B.'s program (or at least the original part of it); of course there was singing, plenty of other music and tableaux and pantomimes.

A bright girl read an essay on Louise Alcott; care was taken that it should be interesting from beginning to end. Then following this was a scene from "Little Women," dramatized for the occasion by Miss B. The first chapter is well adapted to dramatizing, so it was chosen, and by doing just a little interlarding, it did nicely. Meg, Joe, Beth and Amy covered themselves with glory, while Mrs. March was equally. A pretty picture in the scene was represented when all the children clustered about the mother's chair to get the news from father's letter. The good-night song made a pretty close.

The spinning-wheel, that pretty tableau, was preceded by a recitation, the "Lover's Errand," which served to prepare the audience for a keener appreciation of the tableau.

Then there was an essay on Harriet Beecher Stowe, followed by two scenes from Uncle Tom's Cabin. This was also dramatized by Miss B., and the characters represented were Uncle Tom, Eva, Miss Ophelia, and of course, Topsy. The scenes chosen were the bed-making and stolen ear-ring part, then the one where Uncle Tom with Eva are seated in the garden, listening to her idea of the better land. Altogether it was a pleasing program.

An instructive program celebrates an author's birthday. Houghton, Mifflin and

Company, of Boston, will, for fifteen cents, send a good list of such programs, with helpful hints.

If such features come into the schoolroom they will prove beneficial to the pupils and the community at large, and no one but "old foggies" will croak because they interfere with school duties; indeed just such interferences help to develop the boys and girls.

MARY D. SIBLEY.

CHOICE CREAMS.

JAPANESE CREAM TART.—This is a most delicious dessert and a very pretty looking one. Make a pastry of half a pound of flour and four ounces of butter, place on a large, flat dinner-plate; put some jam, red raspberry or strawberry, in the center and spread partially over the surface; with a sharp knife cut the edge of the pastry an inch in depth and half an inch apart, turn down every other strip over the jam; bake in a quick oven. When cool, spread whipped cream over the jam inside the turned-down edges, dot the cream with tiny bits of jelly or jam, or sprinkle with pink sugar.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE.—This is pretty served in individual glasses; small ones, about half the ordinary size, are pretty. Line the glass with lady-fingers (plain, thin glass or tinted ones look well), fill the glass with whipped cream flavored with rose, strawberry or almond.

ITALIAN CREAM.—Sweeten a pint of cream and add the beaten yolks of four eggs, heat in a double boiler till it thickens, but avoid curdling. In the meantime dissolve two tablespoonfuls of gelatin in cold water, add the juice of one lemon, and when the cream is nearly cold, stir in the gelatin and lemon, whip well and put in individual custard-cups. Serve cold.

LEMON CREAM.—To one pint of cream add the grated rind of one lemon, one cupful of sugar and the well-beaten yolks of four eggs, put in a double boiler and stir until it thickens. When nearly cool, put the juice of one lemon in a glass dish and pour the cream slowly over it, stir and set on ice till ready to serve.

ROSE SEELYE-MILLER.

TO MAKE A FOWL TENDER.

When it is drawn and stuffed, it is then wrapped with two thicknesses of brown paper, tightly bound with twine, so that none of the vapor or steam may escape. According to its size and age, the fowl is allowed to cook in a very hot oven within its envelope of paper, from an hour to an hour and a half. When the fowl is taken out, remove the paper, which is to be burned with all the grease it may contain. The bird is now dredged with flour, replaced in the oven and basted every few



EMPIRE APRON.

minutes with the juice which may flow into the pan. As soon as it has assumed a deep brown color, it is served with a rich gravy.

Full-grown pigeons cooked in this manner are said to be equal to squabs.

HENRY PRAHM.

GIFTS FOR THE LITTLE STRANGER.

Very often are we asked for suggestions as to suitable gifts for the little strangers who have but recently taken up their abode in this world.

There are novelties without number, but nothing can be more acceptable to the young mother than a book of records, that will contain blank pages for the date of the little one's birth, weight at birth, and every month afterward until a year old, items of interest, gifts, etc. Here should be chronicled the first words uttered by "his or her royal highness," when the first pearly teeth pricked through, the day the little one began to creep, and when he stood alone the first time and commenced to walk.

Books of this nature can be found in the book-stores for a reasonable sum, but one which will be of infinitely more value to the recipient, can be made at home by a clever woman who is skilful with her brush.

An exquisite one suitable for a holiday gift, has the cover of white celluloid, with violets scattered over it, while the pages are of heavy, creamy linen paper. Tiny holes are punched through the cover and leaves and ribosene passed through them and tied in a bow at the back, to hold the book in place. On the first page is inscribed the poem,

BABY IS KING.

A rose-curtained cradle, where, nestled within Soft cambric and flannel, lie pounds seventeen,

Is the throne of a tyrant—that pink little thing

Is an autocrat august, for baby is king!

Good, solemn grandfather dares hardly to speak

Or walk, lest the sleeper should hear his boots creak.

Grandma is a martyr, in habits and cap,

Which the monarch unsettles, as well as her nap.

Papa, wise and mighty, just home from the house,

Grows meek on the threshold, and moves like a mouse,

To stare at the bundle, then outward he goes,

Like an elephant trying to walk on its toes.

Good aunts and cousins before him bow low,

Though he rumples the ringlets, twists collar and bow.

He bids the nurse walk with his majesty's self,

And cries when she stops, like a merciless elf.

He flings right and left his saucy, fat fist,

And then the next moment expects to be kissed.

He demands people's watches to batter about,

And meets a refusal with struggle and shout.

Then, failing to conquer, with passionate cry He quivers his lips, keeps a tear in his eye,

And so wins the battle, this wise little thing;

He knows the world over that baby is king.

Between each poem should be left several blank pages, at the top of which should be inscribed, "Items," "Gifts," etc.

Another sweet poem for this book is, "Where Did You Come From?" by George MacDouald.

Where did you come from, baby dear?

Out of the everywhere into here.

Where did you get those eyes so blue?

Out of the sky as I passed through.

Where did you get that little tear?

I found it waiting when I got here.

What makes your forehead so smooth and high?

A soft hand stroked it as I went by.

What makes your cheek like a warm, white rose?

I saw something better than any one knows.

Whence that three-cornered smile of bliss?

Three angels gave me at once a kiss.

Where did you get this pretty ear?

God spoke and it came out to hear.

Where did you get those arms and hands?

Love made itself into hooks and bands.

Feet, whence did you come, you darling things?

From the same box as the cherub's wings.

How did they all come just to be you?

God thought of me, and so I grew.

But how did you come to us, you dear?

God thought about you, and so I am here.

Other poems are given below, all of which are very appropriate for these little books.

THIS BABY OF OURS.

There is not a blossom of beautiful May, Silvery daisy or daffodil gay, Nor the rosy bloom of apple-tree flowers, Fair as the face of this baby of ours.

You can never find on a bright June day A bit of fair sky so cheery and gay, Nor the haze on the hill in noonday hours, Blue as the eyes of this baby of ours.

There is not a murmur of wakening bird, The clearest, sweetest that ever was heard, In the tender hush of the dawn's still hours, Sweet as the voice of this baby of ours.

There's no gossamer silk of tasseled corn, Nor flimsiest thread of the shy wood-fern, Nor even the cobweb spread over the flowers, Fine as the hair of this baby of ours.

May the dear Lord spare her to us, we pray, For many a long and sunshiny day, Ere he takes to bloom in paradise bowers, This wee bit darling, this baby of ours.

BABY.

Into our home one blessed day, A wee, sweet babe had found its way. The father's eye with pride and joy Beamed as it rested on his boy. But what the voice within her ear, The mother—in whose eyes a tear Glistens and falls upon the brow Of the babe resting by her now— She lifts her heart and simply says, "O God, I thank thee, give thee praise!" She heard a voice within her ear, That breathes this lesson, low, but clear, "Mother, to thee this day is given A soul to keep and fit for heaven."

On the last page of the book let this quotation, by Florence Percy, appear in quaint letters:

Ah! who may read the future? For our darling we crave all blessings sweet, And pray that He who feeds the crying ravens Will guide our baby's feet.

Another dainty book which will gladden the heart of a fair young mother on Christmas morning, has a cover of white kid, with a wreath of forget-me-nots painted on it, and inside the wreath appear the words, "Our baby."

Still another, no less attractive, has a cover of white linen, with golden buttercups scattered over it, and yellow ribbons are used to tie it with. More durable ones have covers of gray or brown lineu, or chamois-skin, prettily decorated with a spray of flowers and an apt quotation.

CARRIE MAY ASHTON.

KNIT LEAF LACE.

ABBREVIATIONS.—K means knit; n, narrow; sl, slip; st, stitch or stitches; o, over; oo, over twice; pass o, pass slipped stitch over the one k or n; p, purl or seam.

Cast on 26 stitches. Knit across plain.

First row—Sl 1, k 1, o, n, k 1, o, k 2, sl 1, n, pass o, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 2, sl 1, n, pass o, k 2, o, n, oo, k 2.

Cast on 26 stitches. Knit across plain.

Second row—Sl 1, k 2, p 1, k 1, o, n, p 17, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Third row—Sl 1, k 1, o, n, k 2, o, k 1, sl 1, n, pass o, k 1, o, k 3, o, k 1, sl 1, n, pass o, k 1, o, k 3, o, n, k 4.

Fourth row—Sl 1, k 4, o, n, p 17, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Fifth row—Sl 1, k 1, o, n, k 3, o, sl 1, n, pass o, k 5, o, sl 1, n, pass o, o, k 4, o, n, oo, n, oo, k 2.

Sixth row—Sl 1, k 2, p 1, k 2, p 1, k 1, o, n, p 17, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Seventh row—Sl 1, k 1, o, n, n, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 2, sl 1, n, pass o, k 2, o, k 1, o, k 2, sl 1, k 1, pass o, k 1, o, n, k 7.

Eighth row—Sl 1, k 7, o, n, p 17, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Ninth row—Sl 1, k 1, o, n, n, k 1, o, k 3, o, k 1, sl 1, n, pass o, k 1, o, k 3, o, k 1, sl 1, k 1, pass o, k 1, o, n (oo, n) three times, k 1.

Tenth row—Sl 1 (k 2, p 1) three times, k 1, o, n, p 17, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Eleventh row—Sl 1, k 1, o, n, n, o, k 5, o, sl 1, n, pass o, o, k 5, o, sl 1, k 1, pass o, k 1, o, n, k 10.

Twelfth row—Sl and bind off 8 st, k 2, o, n, p 17, k 1, o, n, k 1.

Repeat from the first row for the length required.

ELLA MCCOWEN.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON,

Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

RAISED DOUGHNUTS.

Why cannot every woman make good doughnuts? It seems so easy; and yet so many seem to think that raised doughnuts are one of the mysteries to which only a select few are initiated. To those who make hop-yeast bread the way is very simple. In the morning take two cupfuls of the light bread sponge, before any more flour has been added. Take one pint of sweet milk, and one small cupful of lard and heat to the warmth of new milk; then add to the two cupfuls of sponge, with one cupful of sugar. Beat thoroughly and add enough flour to make a stiff batter and set in a warm place until light, which should be in about two or two and one half hours. Now beat three eggs and add, with another cupful of sugar, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, one teaspoonful of salt and one half teaspoonful of nutmeg. When thoroughly mixed with the batter, add enough flour until the dough can be kneaded as biscuit, and without bothering about sticking to pan or molding-board. Set back and keep warm for another couple of hours, or until light, and then without kneading down or adding more flour, cut the doughnut dough into cakes about as large as a big, black walnut with the shuck off; put on a buttered tin, not too close together, and keep warm, and in about an hour they will be light enough to fry. It takes a doughnut a little longer to cook through than it does a fried cake.

When one does not make hop bread, they can set up the first sponge by using a yeast cake soaked in a cupful of warm water, instead of the two cupfuls of light bread sponge as given above.

It seems as if these directions were plain, enough for a child to follow and be sure of success in the end. GYPSY.

GOOD RECIPES.

Two Good DISHES.—A very pretty rechauffe, or warmed-up dish, is made by warming pieces of meat in some good gravy; have ready some croutons cut to the size of the meat-slices and fried, and dish these and the meat-slices alternately, pouring the gravy in which it was heated into the center, after it has been thickened with a little butter and flour and flavored with a squeeze of lemon-juice and a little finely-chopped parsley. Or try this: Mash some potato and mix it with a couple of spoonfuls of cream or new milk, butter some small, plain molds, line them thinly with the mashed potato and fill up the centers with a mince of any cold meat, chopped fine and seasoned with pepper, salt and some finely-chopped chives; lay a piece of butter on each and bake till the tops are browned, then turn them out and serve with brown sauce around.

CREAM CAKE.—

2 eggs,
2 teacupfuls flour,
2 teacupfuls sugar,
1 teacupful rich cream,
1 teacupful corn-starch,
2 teaspoonfuls baking-powder,
1 teaspoonful vanilla.

Bake in three layers, and spread between each layer the following cream:

½ cupful sugar,
¾ cupful milk,
½ cupful grated cocoanut,
1 heaping tablespoonful corn-starch,
3 tablespoonsfuls cream.

Mix corn starch in the cream, boil milk and sugar together, add corn starch and cocoanut and boil until thick as cream.

CHRISTMAS ON WASH-DAY.

Christmas day came on Monday last year, a circumstance that recalls the following rhyme stored away in the British museum:

If Christmas day on Monday be,
A great winter that year you'll see,
And full of winds both loud and shrill;
But in summer, truth to tell,
High winds there shall be and strong,
Full of tempest, lasting long;
While battles they shall multiply,
And great plenty of beasts shall die.
They that be born that day, I ween,
They shall be strong, each one, and keen;
He shall be found that stealeth aught;
Thou thou be sick, thou diest not.

POTATO-BALL YEAST.

Having had several inquiries for this yeast, I have taken pains to get the recipe from a very reliable and successful house-keeper.

Peel and boil six large potatoes, mash very fine and add one yeast cake dissolved in half a teacupful of warm water. Beat until light and set to rise, using enough of the potato-water to make it wet. Use this to start your bread, with the usual amount of wetting. Just before making it stiff, take out a teacupful of the dough to use next time. The second time add this to your potatoes instead of yeast, and proceed as before.

A NEW JERSEY MIRACLE.

HELPLESS FOR YEARS WITH LOCOMOTOR ATAXIA AND RHEUMATISM—HIS CASE PRONOUNCED HOPELESS BY THE LEADING PHYSICIANS OF SUSSEX COUNTY.

[By Special Correspondence to the N. Y. Press.]

The busy little village of Branchville, N. J., has been the scene of a modern miracle. Chas. F. Struble, a well-known and prosperous farmer, living on Homestead Farm, in Frankford Township, a few miles from Branchville, is just now the chief subject of discussion throughout Sussex County. The Press is always up to date in its news, both political or medical, and has procured the following from Mr. Struble's own lips:

"I have been troubled with rheumatism off and on for 20 years. I have tried all kinds of medicines and treatments. I have taken sulphur baths at Hamburg, N. J., Newton, N. J., and in New York City with a doctor who charged me \$2.50 a bath each day. An English doctor treated me with a galvanic battery at Rockaway, Morris Co., N. Y. I have tried many doctors. None of them did me any permanent good. I used all kinds of liniments I could hear of, but without avail.

"About two years ago I was taken much worse and my doctor said I had locomotor ataxia of the spine, and that the chances were against me. After treating for a time, he finally gave me up and said he had done all he could for me.

"The cords of my limbs were drawn tight as the cords on a kettle drum, and I had such cramps in my limbs that I suffered terrible pain. My feet were cold all the time. I had to use a hot water bag and heated bricks to my feet, but even then I could not get any relief.

"Finally, I heard of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and I commenced taking them on Feb. 5th, 1893. I found in three days' time that the cords in my legs began to 'let up,' my feet began to get warm, I began to eat and sleep well, and in one month I had gained six pounds. The numbness in my limbs began to leave me, too, and to-day I feel like a new man, and cannot say too much in praise of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I am able to walk and do some work, and all this is after using only nine boxes of Pink Pills. I feel so grateful for my recovery that I am glad to let the public know what these pills have done for me."

Our Household.

WHEN THE BOARDERS ARE GONE.

Jerushy, go clear out them grasses an' vines,
The parlor's a sight with sech rubbishin' stuff—
An' pull down the curtings an' close in the blin's—
The dear gracious knows they be'n open enough;
An' fetch in the chairs that's all over the lawn,
We'll hev time to set down, now the boarders is gone.

You best burn them papers an' magazines up,
The picters that's in 'em ain't fit to be seen.
An' if here ain't cigars in the baby's gilt cup,
An' somebody's necktie hung over the screen!
There's jes' sech a clutter, as sure as ye're born,
That's left every time when the boarders is gone.

I've got to hev Hiram's bed fixed up agen—
His mattress an' blankets is out in that L;
He'll be glad to git back from the barn, where he's ben
No better'n camped out—an' I ain't slept well,

A-wantin' my pillas—I ain't had but one;
I'm glad as o'glory the boarders is gone!

Let's hev a good dinner, for once, to ourselves;
I'll beat up a custard with some eggs that is left,

An' I think there's a pie on the buttery shelves,
An' one piece of pork, not a very big heft,
But Hie'll kill a chicken—so put the pot on;
We dast hev a meal, now the boarders is gone!

—Puck.

HINTS FROM MAY MANTON.

THIS stylish cape, with the Columbus cape collar, is a favorite outdoor wrap this season. It is equally becoming to all—tall or short, stout or slim—and the ease with which it can be put on or slipped off, no matter how large the dress sleeves may be, makes it easily the most popular garment worn.

The Columbus cape collar is cut in six gored sections, narrowing at the neck, and can be used separately in remodeling last season's garments—coats, jackets or wraps—to give them the latest mode. Made of fur, velvet, plush or astrakhan, it can be worn over any style of outdoor garment. An edging of fur makes a pretty finish. The cape hangs in graceful folds from the shoulders, without the objectionable fullness of the full circular.

We here present a very desirable and beautiful dress for a child. The model was of diagonal wool plaid, in red and black, the lower edge of the skirt, sleeves and neck being trimmed with narrow, black velvet ribbon. The jacket, body and ripple sleeve caps, were of two-toned velvet—red and black—the front and back being caught together with rosettes of red satin. Hat of red felt, faced with velvet to match, and trimmed with red satin rosettes.



NO. 4,026.—LADIES' CAPE, WITH COLUMBIAN CAPE COLLAR.

Very stylish dresses can be developed in plain material by this design, trimming the jacket and ruffles on the free edges with braid or lace insertion. The jacket can also be made separately for removal, if so desired, and a single sleeve-cap can take the place of the double one here shown.

The ladies' cape and girl's dress shown on this page are made from the celebrated

"Bazar glove-fitting patterns." Dressmakers and fashion authorities recommended them as being among the most simple, economical and reliable cut-paper patterns. Full and explicit directions for putting together the garments accompany each pattern. We have arranged with the makers of these patterns to furnish us with them in all sizes. They are thoroughly reliable and complete in every way. We will mail two patterns of either style or any size, and the FARM AND FIRESIDE one year, for 65 cents, or will send two patterns free to any one sending us one yearly subscriber at 65 cents, if the subscriber takes two patterns also—or at 50 cents if the subscriber wants the paper only. Price of each pattern, when purchased, 25 cents. Postage paid by us. Order by pattern number.

NOTE.—Pattern No. 4,026 can be furnished in five sizes—32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches, bust measure. Always give size wanted. Pattern No. 4,028 (girl's dress) can be furnished in sizes 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. Always state age of the miss that pattern is wanted for.

THE ART OF SLIGHTING.

Methinks I hear some of you dear, good souls exclaim, aghast, "Slighting an art? Absurd! No one should slight anything."

Nevertheless, I stoutly affirm it is an art, and a fine one at that—one that every person, rich or poor, should so thoroughly master that it will become a science to them.

Nothing should be slighted where health and comfort are concerned, but there are a multitude of accessories that can be omitted from the curriculum of routine work without harm to anybody or anything. Let some things go, if necessary, but I beg of you, oh, ye busy mothers, do not begin by taking from the wee ones the time that rightfully belongs to them. Do not allow your heart and hands to become so overcrowded that you have not time to enjoy your children's childhood. What a fascinating study it becomes, this watching the development of your child's mind and body. Do not become a slave to your child, but do not permit other duties to so encroach upon your time that you are too weary to enjoy your own baby. You are anxious that your children shall become sweet-tempered, home-loving, cultured and intelligent men and women. Then do not dey them your supervision, counsel and companionship.

No one person can do everything, and the sooner we American women become cognizant of the fact, the happier will we be. The women of other nationalities do not think of attempting so much as we do. We evidently have the idea that we are capable of doing far more than any of our sisters across the waters. Is it any wonder that we American women possess highly sensitive and nervous organisms? Perhaps many of us would not be guilty of overdoing our powers, if all were directed in one or two ways. It is the multiplicity of duties that is causing so many instances of nervous prostration. No woman can be her own housekeeper, cook, seamstress, laundress and nurse, besides being president of the missionary, ladies' aid and Chautauqua circle.

If one be so fortunate as to hire her housework and part of her sewing done, she will undoubtedly join the art class and spend much time in painting and fancy work, while many hours will be spent in performing social duties (?). Then she will be made to feel it her duty to accept the office of secretary of the Ladies' Library Club or of the local W. C. T. U., because she has so little to do at home.

It is this variety of work—the abundance of it—this never-get-away-from-it feeling, that wears so heavily upon already jaded nerves; this rushing from one thing to another that breaks down the system. If one attempts too much, the ghosts of unperformed duties will haunt her in her dreams. For

"Labor with what zeal we will,
Something still remains undone;
Something uncompleted still
Waits the rising of the sun."

That some women, by judicious management and practical, systematic planning, can accomplish easily what three less systematic women could do, is no just reason why they should attempt to do the work of five such lackadaisical creatures. It is really pitiable to see how some women labor from early morn till late at night, taking thousands of unnecessary steps, but accomplishing little withal, all for the

want of a little system; their heads fail to save their heels. And the ridiculous part of it is, they flatter themselves that no one other woman, under the same circumstances, could do any more work than they. If you would hint to them that the same amount of work could be accomplished with less arduous labor, they would answer, "What is worth doing, is worth doing well." A trite saying and one that is true—with limitations.

I used often to watch a neighbor of mine as she was doing her week's ironing. Not that I made calls in the forenoon, for I believe in practicing the Golden Rule in that particular; but she spent so much time in



NO. 4,028.—GIRL'S DRESS.

doing up her morning's work that her ironing was invariably left until the afternoon. Think of ironing of hot afternoons!

Now, if I cannot get my dishes washed, beds made, floors swept and dusting done in time to finish ironing before dinner, some of the floors go unswept and the inconspicuous dusting remains undone. The beds also receive a thorough airing on that day, not being made until afternoon.

But to return to my neighbor. I have seen her iron old, worn-out towels and aprons as carefully as though they had been fine shirts. In martyr-like tones she would declare, "These large ironings are just killing me!" And then would complacently add, "But 'tain't my nature to slight things." In the winter, all the winter underclothing must needs be "dampened down" and ironed smoothly the next day. In the summer, all the cotton underclothing was ironed and reironed until it fairly shone. She thought any woman who ironed flannels direct from the line, or who merely ironed the bands and facings, was a very careless housekeeper, indeed. She scoffed at the idea that her process shrank and hardened the delicate fabrics; or that clothing would wear longer if ironed less; or that every-day sheets, if folded smoothly, dampened well and ironed at the top, bottom and selvage edge was sufficient, if other duties pressed. She would not rub the iron over a cloth on which beeswax had been put, thus rendering it smooth, because her mother did not do so.

You should see my neighbor mend. Garments that she knew could be worn but once or twice more, received as careful mending as those almost entirely new. Old stockings were carefully and laboriously darned, when they could far more easily have been cut down or made over.

As we sit down to inspect the contents of our mending-baskets, in regard to some well-worn garment the query will arise, "Is this worth mending again?" Give it the benefit of the doubt and mend it once more; but do not, I beseech of you, bestow upon it the painstaking care that a newer article deserves. Mend the garments worth mending, carefully and well. It does not pay to slight them, but be chary of the time spent upon worn-out goods.

This misguided neighbor prided herself upon the fact that no one ever saw her children dirty or ragged. I admit that they were seldom dirty, but just so seldom were they happy. The house must be kept so scrupulously clean, that they were never allowed the innocent joys of childhood. They were not permitted to play with sufficient vigor to soil or tear their clothes; they had their highest enjoyment away from home. Consequently, they are growing up with a dislike for home. Their mother, who prided herself on slighting nothing, neglected the higher natures of her children. She failed signally in becoming a friend to them; while minister-

ing to their physical wants, she neglected to give them the loving sympathy their child minds required. Her own mind having become dwarfed, through negligence, she could not be a companion and helper to them in their studies or occupations. She slighted the things of greatest importance, and counted as naught those of infinite value. I do not believe in allowing the wee ones to be habitually ragged or dirty, but if a little dirt, at times, will add to their happiness, let them have it.

Two of the happiest children I have ever seen were "neglected" for an hour or two each morning during the past summer. Each was given a fire-shovel, old spoons, tin buckets and cups, and sent out into the yard, through which ran a tiny irrigating ditch; there they played, busily and happily, until half-past ten o'clock. They would dig ditches, build bridges, bore artesian wells, plant potatoes and other vegetables, make pies and cakes, and as the school-boy says in his essay, "Many other things too numerous to be mentioned." Their pies and cakes were made of water and sand, which can be readily brushed off when dry. For raisins and different kinds of fruit, the smooth pebbles made an excellent substitute. After tiring of this, they were brought into the house, bathed, dressed and put to bed for a good nap before dinner. After dinner, their amusement consisted of more quiet, cleanly plays in the house. Wasn't that far more sensible than attempting to keep them neat and clean all the morning? What if they did get dirty? They were engaged in healthful play, and the mother had time to attend to household duties while they were gone. She understood the true science of slighting her children. She made their clothes for morning wear tastefully, but plain, putting no unnecessary work upon them. Hence, a little dirt or a rent did not worry her in the least; the garment could be easily washed and mended.

She carried this same judgment about the house. Her work there was not allowed to consume an undue amount of time. She was not very strong; hence, she made it a study to distinguish between the essentials and non-essentials of house-keeping and home-making, and was never too tired or busy to sympathize with, counsel and instruct her children.

Some things must be slighted, or partially so, and every true home-maker should study to distinguish between that which is merely good and that which is really best. Many things considered positive necessities are really only luxuries.

This we find when, throwing care to the winds, we betake ourselves to a delightful mountain resort. As we enjoy camp life for a few weeks, we are highly delighted with the simplicity of it. We enjoy eating there, and eat with evident relish, even if the food be not served in courses. Fresh mountain berries are just as palatable and far more digestible than rich pies or pastries. Too much time is spent by the busy housewife in preparing the dinner dessert. Fruit with whipped cream, snowy bread and golden butter form a dessert that cannot be excelled by the most famous French chef.

There would be fewer dyspeptics in the land if our living were more simple. Our little ones would have fewer spells of sickness if their diet were more simple. Our children will be no healthier, happier nor smarter because we spend hour after hour making dainty clothes for them in which to play, or pampering to a "spoiled taste." Too few mothers seem to realize the comfort to be derived from pretty little flannel dresses; the lighter weight material being delightful for spring and autumn wear, the heavier for winter. They always look well, are warm and comfortable, easily made and more easily laundered and kept in repair.

I once knew a mother who kept her little boy looking clean and well dressed one entire winter by having for him simply a change of flannel dresses, which he wore without aprons. She said the aprons were harder to make and do up than the dresses. I have seen her wash one dress at night in one suds only, shake well, hang up to dry and press in the morning while getting breakfast. ELLA BARTLETT SIMMONS.

DO YOU HAVE ASTHMA?

If you do, you will be glad to hear that the Kola plant, found on the Congo river, West Africa, is reported a positive cure for the disease. The Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, have such faith in this new discovery, that they are sending out free by mail, large trial cases of Kola Compound to all sufferers from Asthma, who send their name and address on a postal card. Write to them.

Agents for this paper make money, and lots of it.

FLORICULTURE and KITCHEN GARDENING.

THE CHINESE PRIMROSE.

The varieties of the Chinese primrose, known botanically as *Primula siensis*, or *P. chiensis*, is beyond question one of the most desirable plants for the window garden we have. From early in January until late in the spring it is in constant bloom, and is truly a beautiful thing.

It is, moreover, obtainable at a low price, plants in bloom retailing at from fifteen to thirty cents each, according to size. As our illustration will show, the foliage and habit of the plant is attractive, and the beauty of the blossom, added to the freedom with which they are produced, makes the plant all that could be desired. The fern-leaf sorts are somewhat more attractive than the others, and may be had bearing blossoms, some white, some red, and others white with red splashes.

The primula is remarkably free from insect enemies and disease. Under glass we have had no trouble of any kind with it, but in the living-room we find that heat, dry atmosphere and dust sometimes bring out the red spider; but this pest is easily gotten rid of by the use of cold water syringed over the foliage of the plant. The culture of the plant is simple, the temperature of the ordinary living-room suiting it admirably; the soil in the pot must not be allowed to become dry at any time, but kept moist continually. Some sunshine is desirable, though our plants, which have had only an hour of sunshine during the day have done better than others having sunshine fully one half the day.

We can cordially recommend the primula to all lovers of plants as being one of the most satisfactory house plants with which we are familiar.

Our illustration is from life, and shows the true character of plant and blossoms in all respects.

SOME OF THE NEWER VEGETABLES.

The following were some of the varieties of vegetables tested in the garden during 1893. The soil was a gravelly loam in good cultivation and quite rich. The season, taken all together, was not a good one; cold spring rains, prolonged drought in summer and cold fall rains being much against a good growth.

Our first test of the Stanley pea made us a convert to the claim that it was a valuable sort. It is described as a cross between American Wonder and Telephone. With us it is medium in season, and requires a deep, rich soil for the best results. As it ripens its cup all at once, "succession" plantings were necessary to give us all the peas we wanted. Its strong points are sweetness, size, tenderness and heavy bearing.

Burpee's Black Lima bean will not take a first rank in the market because of its color, but it is as juicy and tender as the white sorts, and under garden culture fully as desirable. It requires good pole support for best results.

On our soil the new Giant White cucumber was not a success. Nice when about half grown, but soft and pulpy instead of crisp and tender when full size, as is claimed for it. On different soil—a rich, warm sand, perhaps—it might bear out the claim made for it.

Boston Market beet is one of the best early beets we have tried. Not so good in quality as some other sorts, but because of its extreme earliness will be found desirable.

Onondaga lettuce—a second season's test of this confirms our good opinion of it. It is very early, and what is more to the point in garden culture, is crisp and tender from the first to the last of the season. The tinges of red or brown on the leaf will doubtless count against it in the market, but the cultivator who grows it for his own consumption will make no mistake.

HAVE A KITCHEN GARDEN.

A garden near the house for vegetables may seem an unnecessary part of farm life where there are so many acres, a part of which may be used for that purpose. The families in town, having but a few yards of ground, appreciate the advantages of the kitchen garden, and so would the farmer's wife and daughters if they once had one. Try it this year. When the early plowing is being done, ask "father" to break up a small plot near the house, and prepare it for different vegetables.

Sow radishes, lettuce, beets, peas, beans, cucumbers, etc., in small quantities at frequent intervals, and you will hardly

realize until the season is over how much pleasure and how many fresh vegetables you have had at so little cost of time, labor and money. In this department we will give you advice regarding kinds, methods of culture, etc., so that you will have little difficulty in accomplishing all you expect.

One of the first things to do is to obtain the catalogues of the different seedsmen and plantsmen whose advertisements you see in this journal, study them carefully, and make judicious selections. If we can help you, we will be glad to do so on request.

A FEW HINTS ON PALMS.

During the past year or two palms have become exceedingly popular for the living-room, and are especially sought for by those whose rooms are so situated that they obtain little or no sunlight.

Many species of palms can be successfully grown in the house under certain conditions; but if these conditions cannot be complied with, it is time and labor wasted to attempt palm culture. Heat and moisture are essential to their well-being; sunshine is not. So far as possible under the changed situation, we try to give our palms in the house the same care and treatment they had in the glass palm-house.

Of course, it is quite impossible in the ordinary living-room to have the warm, moist atmosphere of the palm-house, but the moisture may be supplied in a modified degree by having vessels of water near the plants; more or less of it will be drawn into the atmosphere by evaporation, and

Don't try to raise canna from seed. It takes an expert to induce the seed to sprout, and notwithstanding many directions for success are given, such as soaking the seed in hot water, filing a hole in them, etc., not one amateur in a hundred will get a dozen plants from a hundred seeds. Even if you should succeed, the chances are ten to one that the child will be inferior to the parent in markings of flower or other ways. Again, strong plants or dormant roots of many first-class sorts may be bought at a low price, so it is better in every way to leave canna growing from seed to the professional.

Don't attempt to grow roses, carnations, violets, ferns, geraniums, etc., in the same window. They are entirely different in their natures, one from the other, and it is practically impossible to succeed with them all in the same window. The heat and moisture required for roses to do well would be death to carnations and violets. If your window garden space is limited to one window and one room, try to obtain plants which require about the same treatment and temperature; failure to do this may be the reason why your efforts to have plants grow and thrive in the window have failed.

Other things which seem of little consequence, but which may be, one or more of them, the cause of failure with you, are these: Lack of drainage in the pots, resulting in soured soil, and from this yellow and dropping leaves. Coal gas, which invariably blasts buds of some plants, and blackens and wilts the delicate foliage of ferns, heliotropes and other plants of a similar character. Too much pot-room for the roots of callas, which results in a



THE CHINESE PRIMROSE.

the palms will readily absorb it. It is our practice, at least twice a week, to sponge the palms, leaves and stalks, keeping them free of the dust which always accumulates in carpeted rooms and from coal-stoves. Every other day the foliage is sprinkled lightly; this care, with water at the roots twice each week, keeps the plants in healthy condition. It will be necessary to see that the sun's rays through the glass do not strike the leaves while they are wet; a brown spot (scald) will usually be the result.

A word about varieties and species. The fan palm, or *Latania* *borbonica*, is a favorite with many, but it is, in our opinion, more desirable for a large hall than for a living-room, especially if the latter has considerable furniture in it. For the parlor or other moderate-sized rooms we prefer some of the varieties of *Kentia*, as *Balmoreana*, *Canterburyana* or *Fosteriana*; all are graceful in habit, and the first and last named erect and slightly drooping. *Kentia Canterburyana* is still more drooping than the others, and makes a very pretty specimen when grown by itself. *Cocos Weddeliana*, sometimes called the toy palm, is another desirable sort for the house; its foliage is delicate, and it has an upright, graceful habit.

THINGS NOT TO DO.

Don't try to raise double petunia-plants from seed; a large proportion of them will "go back" to the single form, and in many cases the markings will be inferior. The single sorts from seed, however, are most satisfactory, and by using seed of the named varieties, rather than a mixture, you can obtain the shades of color desired.

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

JUDGE NOT.

Oh, men who are good, who are honored and great,
Be kind to your brothers of lowly estate.
If masters, then be not in tasking severe.
If rulers, then rule men in love and not fear.
And if ye fathers, wise, learned and strong,
Lead the little ones tenderly, slowly along.
Ere you sneer at the humble or punish the base,
Pause and think for awhile, "Put yourself in their place!"

Fair lady, so haughty, so chaste and so cold,
Kept safe from harm in love's sheltering fold,
Ere you turn from your frail, erring sister with scorn,
Think how she was tempted and how she was born.
Her ruin may date from a smile or kind word,
The first that her poor, hungry heart ever heard.
Then pause ere you taunt her with sin and disgrace—
How if you had been tried! "Put yourself in her place!"

Proud man, whom the white robes of ermine enfold,
As you weigh others' sins in the balance you hold,
Ere you crush the last spark in a heart doomed to bleed,
Let mercy come in for a moment and plead,
Ere you sentence "for life" a poor brother to dwell
With the ghost of the sins that shall people his cell,
Think why you are honored, and he in disgrace.
What is hid in your heart? "Put yourself in his place!"

"Put yourself in their place!" Yea, have mercy on all
Who through love or through hate, good or evil shall fall;
Who knows in the light of a judgment divine,
Which soul shall be whitest, the sinner's or thine!
Fear to judge lest you stand at the heavenly door,
To see harlots and publicans go in before,
While you cover with guilty confusion your face,
And cry, when too late, to be put in their place!

—Phoebe Cary.

LOOKING FOR HIS RETURN.

PASSING the corner of Sixth and Plum streets, Cincinnati, a short time ago, our attention was called to a neatly-dressed, respectable-looking woman, who was standing a little distance outside the curbstone, anxiously looking down the street. We were informed that during the late war her husband entered the army, and she parted with him on that spot. He, like thousands of others, never returned. The disappointment to his wife was more than she could bear. Reason gave way, and the idea of her husband's return took entire possession of her mind, and for years, almost every day, and till late in the night, through sunshine and storm, heat and cold, she had stood on the spot where her husband left her looking for his return. But alas, she looks in vain! He sleeps his last sleep, and the sound of his returning footsteps will never greet her ears. Hope deferred has made her heart-sick, and yet she clings to that hope with unyielding tenacity, and it is the all-absorbing, ruling passion of her life. What an evidence of sincere devotion, of undying affection! And yet the longing desire of that smitten heart will never be realized.

Such are the hopes and expectations of the world, which are often doomed to disappointment. But the Christian's hope, unlike these, resting on a sure foundation, shall never be cut off. The Savior, before his crucifixion, surrounded by his sorrowing disciples, informed them of his departure from them; but he assured them that he would come again and receive them to himself, that where he was, they might be also. And when, from the Mount of Olives, he ascended in triumph to his Father, the angels assured his disciples that he would come again in like manner as they had seen him go into heaven. Ever since that hour such has been the expectation and hope of his people. The glorious appearing of Christ—his coming to be glorified in his saints, is a theme on which the apostles dwell with peculiar emphasis. Paul assures us that to them that look for him he will appear the second time, not a suffering Savior, to offer himself a sacrifice for sin, but as a glorious conquering deliverer, to exalt and save his people. John declares that when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. The great incentive offered by Peter to faithful

ness in the ministry is, that when the chief shepherd shall appear, they shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.—*Messiah's Herald*.

LONGING FOR GOD.

"I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee."

Too late I loved thee, O thou beauty of ancient days, yet ever new; too late I loved thee. For thou wert with me and I abroad; there I searched for thee, I in my deformity plunging among the fair forms which thou hast made. Thou wert with me, but I was not with thee. Things held me far from thee, which unless they were in thee were not at all. Thou didst call and shout, and didst burst through my deafness. Thou didst flash and shine and scatter my blinding. Thou didst breathe forth odors, and with every breath I draw I pant for thee. I tasted, and I hunger and thirst. Thou didst touch me, and I yearn for thy peace. Where hast thou not walked with me, O Truth, teaching me what to beware and what to desire, when I referred to thee whatever I could discover in this earthly state? Nor in all these things can I find a safe place for my soul but only in thyself; there may my scattered members be gathered, so that nothing shall be separated from thee.

And sometimes thou admittest me to an unusual affection, felt in my inmost soul, and rising to a strange sweetness, which, if it were perfected in me, I know not what in it would not belong to the life to come.

O Truth who art Eternity, and Love who art Truth, and Eternity who art Love, thou art my God; to thee do I cry night and day.—*St. Augustine*.

BE KIND.

"Have you ever noticed," writes Prof. Drummond, "how much of Christ's life was spent in doing kind things—in merely doing kind things? Run over it with that view, and you will find that he spent a great portion of his time simply in making people happy, in doing good turns to people. There is only one thing greater than happiness in the world, and that is holiness; and it is not in our keeping; but what God has put in our power is the happiness of those about us, and that is largely to be secured by our being kind to them."

"The greatest thing," says some one, "a man can do for his heavenly father is to be kind to some of his other children." I wonder why it is that we are not all kinder than we are? How much the world needs it. How instantaneously it acts. How infallibly it is remembered. How superabundantly it pays itself back, for there is no debtor in the world so honorable so superbly honorable as love. "Love never faileth." Love is success. Love is happiness. Love is life. Where love is, God is.—*Messiah's Herald*.

THE GREAT DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE.

1. The Bible is first of all a record of historical facts, called doctrines.
2. The first and fundamental doctrine is that of a personal creator.
3. The second great doctrine is man's creation in the likeness of his maker, thus becoming morally responsible, and subject to God's holy law.
4. The doctrine of sin is simply a statement of fact concerning man's conduct and consequent condition.
5. The center of the system of doctrines is that of redemption. It begins in Eden, where the promise is given that the seed of woman should bruise the serpent's head, and culminates with the cross, when Christ says, "It is finished."

6. The Old Testament teaches the same as the New.

7. All the doctrines concerning man's future state are simply statements concerning man's personal relation to God, as determined by his acceptance or rejection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

SINFUL SILENCE.

In a book by Rev. J. R. Miller, D.D., are found the following words bearing on this subject: "People keep in their hearts unspoken the kindly words they might utter—ought to utter—in the ears of the weary, the soul-hungry and the sorrowing about them. The ministry of good words is of wondrous power, yet many of us are wretched misers with our gold and silver coin of speech. Is any miserliness so mean? One who attends the funeral of any ordinary man, listens to what his neighbors have to say about him as they stand by his coffin, and will hear enough kind words spoken to have brightened whole years of his life. But how was it when the man was living, toiling and struggling among these very people? Ah! they were not so faithful then with their grateful, appreciative words. Silence was overdone."

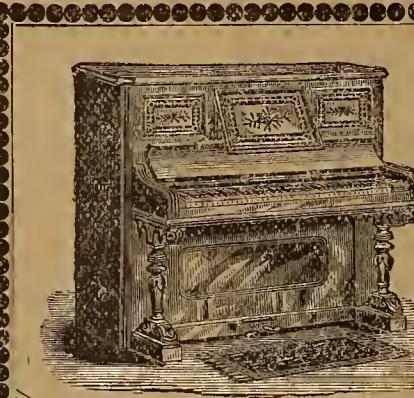
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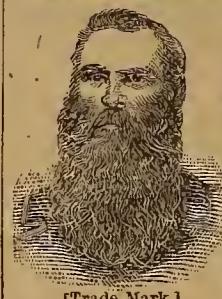
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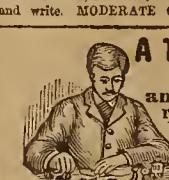
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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Persons desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Frothy Cream.—C. L., Sandy, Pa. Keep your milk and cream in a different place. Thoroughly scald every utensil in which they are handled. And follow directions given in "Queries" for January 1st number.

Remedy for Cabbage Lice.—A. N. C., Placerville, Cal., writes: "My cabbages were badly infested with lice. What can I do for them?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Use hot soap-suds, or spray with keroseum emulsion, or a strong infusion of tobacco waste.

The Giant Rocca Onion.—A. T., Smithfield, Va., writes: "What onion will keep all winter, and where can I get seed? My Giant Rocca all spoiled last winter by growing."

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—The large Italian onions are not good keepers. If you want onions for winter or spring sales, don't grow the Rocca, but rather Danvers Yellow, Yellow Dutch, Red Wethersfield, etc. You can get seed of any reliable seedsman. See our advertising columns.

Timothy Meadow.—H. K., Dwyer, Mo., writes: "I have a piece of old meadow which was totally dried and killed last fall. I also have a piece of clover injured by drought. I would like to sow both pieces to timothy. Would it do to sow the seed early this spring on top of the ground, and harrow in? Would I expect a reasonable crop, or is fall seeding better?"

REPLY.—Timothy sown alone early in the fall will, if the season is favorable, give a full crop of hay the following summer. If sown alone in the spring, you could hardly expect a good crop the first season, unless all the conditions are extremely favorable.

Reclaimed Land.—H. T. J., Olney, Wash., writes: "I have a piece of land from off which I have drained a lake. The soil is decayed vegetation, and seems quite rich, but I have made several fruitless attempts to get it under cultivation. Nothing thrives on it except where there has been fire, and the soil gets burned, when it yields well."

REPLY.—Your letter suggests that your reclaimed land might be greatly benefited by applications of hard wood ashes, or potash in some other form. Also try application of fresh-hurned, caustic lime, at the rate of fifty bushels per acre. The sample of soil sent is composed mainly of vegetation only partially decayed. Thorough and frequent cultivation of the soil, exposing it to the air, will in time fit it for raising crops.

Ripened Cream.—J. L. N., Waterville, Kan., writes: "What is ripened cream? At what temperature should cream be kept, and how long? I have one cow."

REPLY.—For practical purposes ripened cream is cream that has become slightly acid. Keep the cream at a temperature of forty or forty-five degrees until you have enough for a churning. Then place the cream-can in a vessel of warm water, and raise the temperature to sixty-five degrees or a little higher in winter. Keep it at this temperature for about twenty hours, stirring it occasionally. As soon as it turns slightly acid, the cream is "ripened," and ready for churning. It is more trouble to make good butter from the milk of one cow than from half a dozen. But churn at least twice a week, even if the churnings are small.

Greenhouse for Growing Onion-plants.—A. D., Sanborn, N. Y., writes: "Should I build a small greenhouse to raise my onion-plants for transplanting? What caused my plants to die in hotbed?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—A cold-frame is not early enough for starting onion-plants in time. You are liable to lose plants in the manner mentioned, by suddenly perishing after they have made a several weeks' normal growth, whether you plant in cold-frame, hotbed or greenhouse. The hotbed should be started early, say in February, for best results, and I find that clear sand is about the best soil in which to raise onion-plants. Water with liquid manure, or apply a little nitrate of soda or nitrate of potash. Of course, a greenhouse is more convenient than a hotbed for the purpose of growing onion seedlings. It is a thing that any market gardener should have.

Corrosive Sublimate for Potato-scab.—**Fish Refuse.**—F. F. C., West Bay City, Mich., writes: "How long should the seed potatoes be soaked in the corrosive sublimate solution?—In what quantity should fish refuse be used in the potato hills for best results?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Make a one-tenth-percent solution (one part of corrosive sublimate to 1,000 parts of water) and soak your seed potatoes for two hours. Fish refuse makes a strong manure for all kinds of crops. If I could get it for the hauling, I would keep my wagon going after it pretty freely. The best way to manage it is by composting it in alternate layers of muck or loam and fish refuse. If you can add a sprinkling of kainite or muriate of potash or plaster, by all means do so. Then shovel or fork the mass over from time to time until it is all homogenous and fine. Then apply to the field broadcast, say fifteen or twenty good loads to the acre. More will do no harm unless you use potash salts too freely.

Grafting Grapes.—M. C. S., Starkville, N. Y., writes: "I have about twenty old vines. Would like to graft them to Green Mountain. How is it done, and where can I get Green Mountain scions?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—For any one having only a few vines to graft, and with an expert grafter within reach, I would advise letting the latter do the job, even if he would make a good charge for it. The ordinary cleft-graft does not always succeed. The grafting must be done on the root stock, below the level of the ground, so the grafts can be covered up clear above the top. The greatest trouble is in splitting the gnarly stock. You may have to use a saw. Set the scions in same way as you would set apple or pear grafts. A newer method, and one that seems to be more generally successful, requires the use of a specially designed double saw. I will tell of this in a regular article. Scions of the Green Mountain (Wluchell) grape can probably be had of Ellwanger and Barry, Stephen Hoyt's Sons, and other nurseries.

Tanning Hides.—C. D., Bostwick, Neb. To tan hides with the hair on for rugs and robes, first thoroughly wash the skin and remove all fleshy matter from the inner side,

then clean the hair with warm water and soft soap, and rinse well. Take one fourth of a pound each of salt and ground alum, and one half an ounce of borax; dissolve in hot water, and add sufficient rye-meal to make a thick paste, which spread on the flesh side of the skin. Fold it lengthwise, the flesh side in, the skin being quite moist, and let it remain for ten or fifteen days in an airy and shady place; then shake out and remove the paste from the surface and wash and dry. For a heavy skin, a second application of the paste may be made. Afterward pull and stretch the skin with the hands, or over a beam, and work on the flesh side with a blunt knife. To tan for thongs, scrape all the flesh and fat off the skin; bury it, well spread out, in wet ashes or soft hair for a day or two, or until the hair starts readily. Remove the hair and wash thoroughly. Make a tanning solution by dissolving a large handful of pulverized alum and two handfuls of common salt in a gallon of water. Soak the skin in this solution for two weeks, then rinse thoroughly and pull; rub and stretch while drying. The leather will be soft, and will make good lashes as long as kept dry.

To Destroy Colony Ants.—L. L. R., Hempstead, Texas, writes: "Can you tell me how to exterminate what are known here as the colony ants? They build their nests in clusters, sometimes fifty in a place not larger than twenty feet square. They burrow to a great depth. Are very troublesome to orchards and shrubbery, climbing the trees and cutting the leaves off. They are red and large."

REPLY.—Bisulphide of carbon will exterminate them. Pour a little into the burrows and close them up with earth. This liquid is very volatile, and its fumes are sure death to small animals and to insects. The vapor being heavier than air, penetrates to the lowest parts of the burrows. Bisulphide of carbon is a poison, and must be handled with care. It is not corrosive, and will not hurt the hands, but it is highly inflammable, and must be kept away from fire. Ants, lice, weevil, gophers, etc., can be easily and cheaply destroyed by this agent. One of the best brands of the market is "Fuma," manufactured by Edward R. Taylor, Cleveland, Ohio, who will, on application, send circulars giving full directions for using.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to DR. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Treatment of Spavin.—M. E. S., Randolph, Mass. Read the article on spavin in December 1st issue of FARM AND FIRESIDE.

An Old Fistula.—J. W. M., Stratton, Neb. Even such an old fistula as you describe may, under circumstances, yet be brought to healing, but is useless for any one except a competent and attentive veterinarian to attempt a cure.

Lousy Hogs.—R. B. C., Patterson, Iowa, writes: "Please tell us how to get rid of lice on hogs. They are rather small, black and very lively lice. We first noticed them about a year ago, and have used kerosene-oil, turpentine and ashes, and changed the pens, but they stick with us."

ANSWER.—Wash your hogs once a week for three weeks in succession with a good tobacco decoction, and immediately after each washing clean the premises where the hogs are kept in a most thorough manner. If you neglect this, you will never succeed, no matter what remedies you may use.

Two Quarts of Milk Instead of Twelve.—L. E. B., Berkeley Heights, N. J., writes: "My Jersey cow, ten years old, always has given ten to twelve quarts of milk a day when fresh. She had a calf six weeks ago. The calf was taken away when five days old, and the cow only gave two quarts of milk a day. She is rather fat; is fed on good timothy hay, brewer's grains and oil-meal. Can the cow be brought back to her usual ratio of milk before calving again, and how?"

ANSWER.—Keep on milking, preferably three times a day, and unless the cow is sick, or her udder is diseased, there is no doubt the flow of milk will return. Probably you took the calf away too soon.

A Peculiar Case.—H. H., Oak Hill, Kan., writes: "I have a six-year-old horse that has no teeth on one side of the lower jaw. Now there is one little one appearing. The teeth on the upper jaw grow long. I have had to cut them off several times, for when they get too long he cannot eat. When cut off he can eat well. Is it safe to keep the horse? If so, how should I trim the teeth?"

ANSWER.—What you describe is surely a peculiar case of arrested or erratic development. All that can be done is to saw off to a proper length all those teeth that are too long and grow into the opposite gums. As these teeth are not in friction, this operation must be performed once a year. As you are a dealer in hardware, you will know how and where to obtain a suitable saw with fine teeth and of sufficient hardness to cut a horse's tooth.

Wants to Know What Killed His Horses.—A. J. M., Silver Beach, Wash., writes: "Will you please tell me what killed my mares? They were six years old and in good flesh. They looked as though they were in good health till an hour before death; then they began to act as though they were tired, and began to tremble all over, and stagger around a little, then fall backward. They tried to get up, but could not, and died in about twenty minutes after they fell down. They died about two hours apart. They were at work at the time. They never did heavy work."

ANSWER.—If you had made a post-mortem examination and reported the result, it might have been easy enough to name the disease, or the cause of death, of your horses. But to put it in a nutshell, all you say is that your horses died in a very short time after they showed any symptoms of disease. As this may happen in more than one disease, for instance, colic, internal hemorrhage, anthrax, etc., it is impossible to decide of what disease your horses died.

Diverticule.—Wm. A., Ashton, S. D., writes: "I have a cow seven years old, which, soon after calving one year ago, was taken sick. She lost in both flesh and milk, and her eyes sunk back in her head. Sometimes she loses her cuds; sometimes I find about a peck of

cuds by the manger. She has spells of difficult breathing."

ANSWER.—What you describe seems to be a diverticule of the esophagus, produced by rupture of the muscular coat of the esophagus, and a bulging out of the mucous membrane through the vent, thus forming a sac or pouch, which becomes filled with food while the cow is eating, and is more or less emptied when the animal vomits. If the diverticule is in the neck portion of the esophagus, an operation, if performed by a competent veterinarian, may effect a cure, provided there is no stricture further down. If the diverticule is in the chest portion, an operation cannot be performed, and the case is incurable.

Probably Foot-mange.—S. B. D., Beloit, Wis., writes: "I have a mare that seems to be very uneasy in her hind legs. She stamps as if bitten by fleas. Last summer she had something like the scratches. I cured all outward signs of that, but since she had this trouble with her hind legs they seem to be tender. What is the matter and the remedy?"

ANSWER.—Your mare, it seems, is affected with foot-mange, caused by mites (Symbiotes or Dermatophagous), which are somewhat different from the common mange-mites, and as a rule, do not spread the disease over the whole body. First, give the legs and other affected parts of the body a good, thorough wash with soap and warm water. This done, thoroughly clean and disinfect the stable, and then wash the legs, etc., of the mare with a three-percent solution of creolin (Pearson) in water, or else rub in an ointment of soft soap and benzoin (4:1). Repeat this treatment in five or six days, and your mare will be cured.

May be Trichinosis.—T. M. E., Atkinson, Neb., writes: "What is the matter with my sows? I have three ailing. They became stiff, hump up the back somewhat, and after three or four days refused to eat. When I touched them to make them get up, they acted like a person with inflammatory rheumatism. I have been fattening them, and have had them in small pens, with little chance for exercise. I killed one. The entrails all looked natural. From the leaf lard, when cool, ran an oily substance, somewhat yellow. Would it be safe to eat the meat?—Also, can I give a cow anything, drug or feed, to make her come in heat?"

ANSWER.—Judging from your description of the ease, it appears probable that your sows suffer from trichinosis. Still, the diagnosis cannot be definite until the trichines have been found. Consequently, a microscopic examination will be necessary. Trichinous meat, of course, should not be eaten; at any rate, not raw or rare.—As to your second question, some, usually much more dangerous than effective, nostrums are sometimes given for that purpose. If animals qualified for breeding, and desirable for that purpose, are kept under suitable hygienic conditions, nothing will be necessary.

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(See No. 6, on page 16.)

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Our Miscellany.

SOMEBODY who claims to know says that a child three years old is half the height it will ever be.

IF the Hawaiian policy of President Cleveland is not carried out, the dusky queen may sue him and Secretary Gresham for breach of promise.

CHARACTER is not cut in marble, it is not something solid and unalterable. It is something living and changing, and may become diseased as our bodies do.—*George Eliot*.

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Who have in vain tried every other means of relief, should 'try SCHIFFMANN'S GERMAN ASTHMA CURE. No waiting for results. Its action is immediate, direct and certain, as a single trial will prove. Send for a trial package to Dr. R. Schiffmann, St. Paul, Minn., but ask your druggist first.

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ONE only "right" we have to assert in common with mankind—and that is as much in our hands as theirs—is the right of having something to do.—*Miss Mulock*.

A DEEP-SEATED COUGH cruelly tries the Lungs and wastes the general strength. A prudent resort for the afflicted is to use Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, a remedy for all troubled with Asthma, Bronchitis, or any Pulmonary affection.

IF the editors of some of the agricultural papers were given three acres and a cow, they would not know from which of them to expect the milk.—*Texas Siftings*.

The "Western Trail" is published quarterly by the CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC RAILWAY. It tells how to get a farm in the West, and it will be sent to you gratis for one year. Send name and address to "Editor Western Trail, Chicago," and receive it one year free. JOHN SEBASTIAN, G. P. A.

In the Sandwich islands apple-trees grow wild, and there are forests of this tree miles in extent covering the mountain sides. Growing closely together, they do not bear much but seedling apples, showing that some fruit falls to the ground and sheds its seeds.

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CLASS IN GRAMMAR.

Teacher—"Parse the sentence, 'Yucatan is a peninsula.'"

Pupil (who never could understand grammar, anyhow)—"Yucatan is a proper noun, nom'tive case, second person singular—"

"How do you make that out?"

"First person Icatan, second person Yucatan, third person Hecatan; plural, first person Wecatan, second per—"

"Go to your seat!"

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"No, a business suit."

"Well, I meant business," she answered.

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There is good news for our readers who are victims of Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption, in the wonderful cures made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Broca Discovery. Write to the New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, and they will send you this new treatment free for trial. State age and all particulars of your disease.

A USEFUL ADJUNCT.

Guest (tenth story)—"Porter, what's this rope coiled up in the corner for?"

Hotel porter—"Dat's fo' use in case ob fiah, sal."

Guest (after a look out of the window to the sidewalk)—"Oh, I see. Very convenient. If a man objects to being burned to death he can hang himself."

A LESSON.

Pipkin—"Does Chappie belong to the smart set?"

Potts—"He did, but they kicked him out."

Pipkin—"What did he say about that?"

Potts—"Why, he said that there was such a thing as being too smart."—*Truth*.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, \$20 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

THE ENTRANCE TO THE HOME.

Here are some of the indispensable furnishings of a hall: A table somewhere near the door, and on it a tray for cards and some sort of a receptacle for incoming and outgoing letters; another table near the end of the hall, with a hat-tree above it, for coats, hats and the like; an umbrella-holder and a chair for the doubtful person to occupy while his message is brought up-stairs.

All these things should be made as attractive as possible. At least one or two good pictures should hang from the walls, and a very charming effect is obtained when the wall beside the stairway has various engravings and etchings hung at different heights. If the hall is very long, its dreary and monotonous appearance may be corrected by a broad piece of fretwork fastened across the top. The card-tray and the letter-baskets should be as pretty as possible, and a great bunch of bright-colored flowers or a green plant will make the table particularly attractive. The umbrella-stand may be a piece of blue or green or yellow pottery, such as is sold for jardinieres, and the rather unsightly effect of the family overcoats and overshoes at the end of the hall may be remedied by placing a Japanese screen between them and the entering guest.

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On the shore of Lake Michigan, from May 1 to October 30, 1893, stood the Magic City—the Dream City—that caused the whole world to halt and gaze in wonder and amazement. This was the crowning event in America's history of 400 years. Every nation from "Greenland's Icy Mountains to India's Coral Strand," from darkest Africa to the islands of the sea, poured forth their riches as tribute to the World's Columbian exposition, that it should be the most marvelous display of ancient and modern times. All that the brain of man and woman had conceived, that human skill could execute, was there. Among these was the largest building in the world, largest engine in the world, most powerful electrical machinery in the world, fastest train in the world, greatest cannon in the world, strongest search-light in the world, highest wheel in the world, most extensive collection of paintings in the world, and a thousand and one other greatest things were there within an area of 633 acres, of which 250 acres were covered with buildings that alone cost Twenty-three Million Dollars. All this wealth of the earth and genius of mind was concentrated there to exemplify the imperial glories of our nation. Only the spirit and the pictures of this, the eighth and greatest wonder of the world, remain with us. The spirit will make our nation greater and all humanity better, while the pictures make a pictorial history that will tell the story to all the children of men. On another page of this paper will be found the description of a collection of over 200 photographic views of the World's Fair, which is sent with a year's subscription to the Farm and Fireside, at 75 cents.

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SUPPOSE.

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Oh, come now! Be honest! What would you do?

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Suppose you were thinking of serious things, Of questions mortality asks,

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Suppose, while thus puzzled, a frown on your brow,

And your face looking solemn and grim, Little laddie insists you shall be a "bow-wow!"

Or sing "Hey! Diddle, Diddle!" to him.

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You'd "hark" or recite Mother Goose, wouldn't you?

—William S. Lord, in *Chicago Record*.

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ELECTRICITY VERSUS THE CANAL MULE.

"Does yer know what's happenin' in de wurl ob science?"

"Deed I doesn't," was the reply.

"Hain' yoh 'shamed, au' yoh workin' on er causal-boat, ingaged in tendin' to de traffic oh dishere great country? Yoh bettah know; I tells yoh dat. Science is gittin' right into yoh bus'ness."

"How do you mean, uncle?"

"Dey is runnin' canal-boats by 'lectricity stid o' by mule, an' ef yoh ain' keerful yoh'll be shocked clean off'n de tow-path inter de woods."

"I ain' skeert."

"You ain'?"

"No'n deed. I'd like fur to hab de 'lectricity once."

"What foh?"

"Case, ef dat 'lectricity kin shock any han'der a mule kin kick, I dess wants ter see it. Dat's all; I dess wants ter see it."—*American Industries*.

GETTING IT OFF HIS MIND.

"Now, John," she said persuasively, "you will try to do those few errands for me when you get down town."

"Yes, indeed," he replied.

"Don't put them off."

"No. I make it a rule now, when I promise to do anything for you, to get it off my mind as quickly as possible."

"Yes," she answered, with a gentleness that relieved the sarcasm, "you do—by forgetting it."—*Washington Star*.

AN EXPERT OUTDONE.

"Say, mister," said the stranger who was inspecting the prehistoric animal department of the museum, "who drawed them pictures?"

"Prof. Slimson."

"Did he 'magine he saw 'em?"

"In a certain sense, I suppose so."

After a silence he resumed reluctantly:

"Well, I must confess that he's seen some that's brau' new to me. An' I've been to a 'nebriate asylum three times."

TOO INDEPENDENT.

Crusty old gentleman—"Your singing, Miss Taylor, is like attar of roses—"

Miss Taylor (with a gratified smile)—"Oh, you are too flattering!"

Old gentleman (continuing)—"A little of it goes a very long way."—*Tit-Bits*.

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United States Life Saving Station,
Krupp Gun Building,
Puck Building,
Electric Fountains,
Obelisk,
Columbus' Statue at Entrance of Administration Building,

Colonnade,
Government Plaza,
Facade of Machinery Hall,
Golden Door to Transportation Building,
Whaling Bark,
Administration Building, by night,
The Caravals,
Indian Door-posts,
Viking ship,
Yucatan Ruins,
Liberty Bell,
Cafe Marine,
Statuary on top of Peristyle,
Whaleback Christopher Columbus,
Statue of America,
Statue of The Republic,

Franklin Statue,
Cliff Dwellers,
Windmills,
Interior View of the Manufacturers' Building,
Interior View of the Horticultural Building,
Interior View of the Government Building,
Interior View of the California Building,
Interior View of the Electricity Building, by night,
Roof Garden, California Building,
Austrian Exhibit in Manufacturers' Building,
Interior View of Anthropological Building,—
The Famous Illinois Farm, in grain,
Ohio Statue,
Aztec Ruins,
A Midway Plaisance Shouter,

In the Samoan Village,
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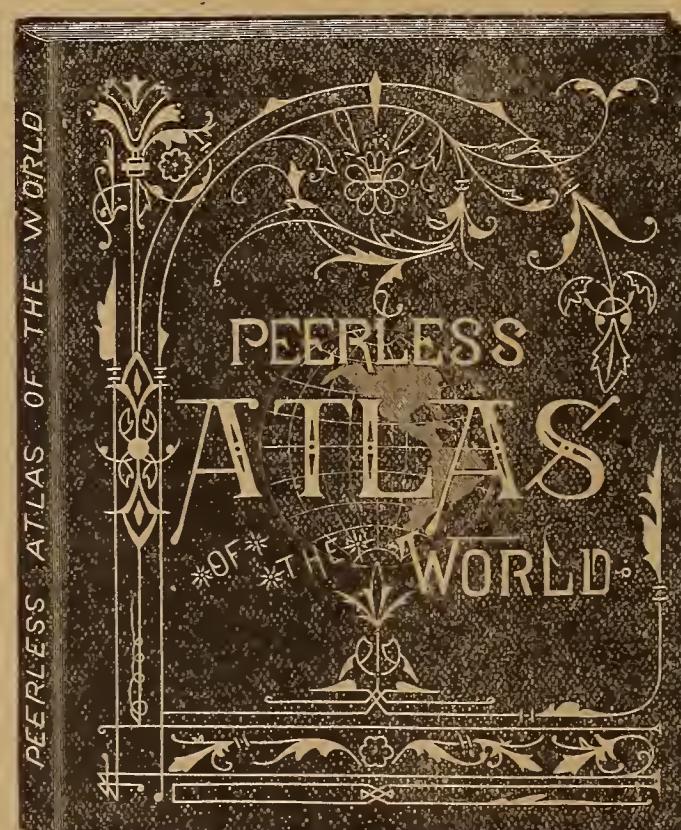
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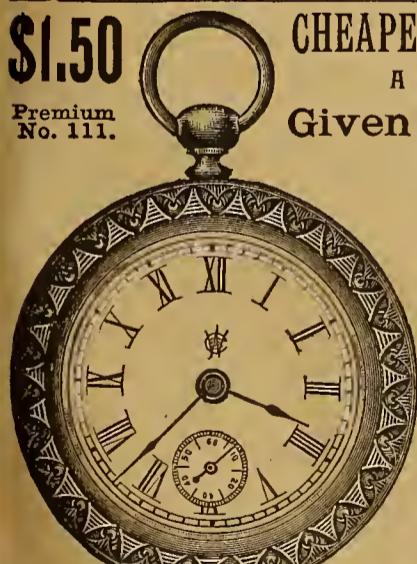
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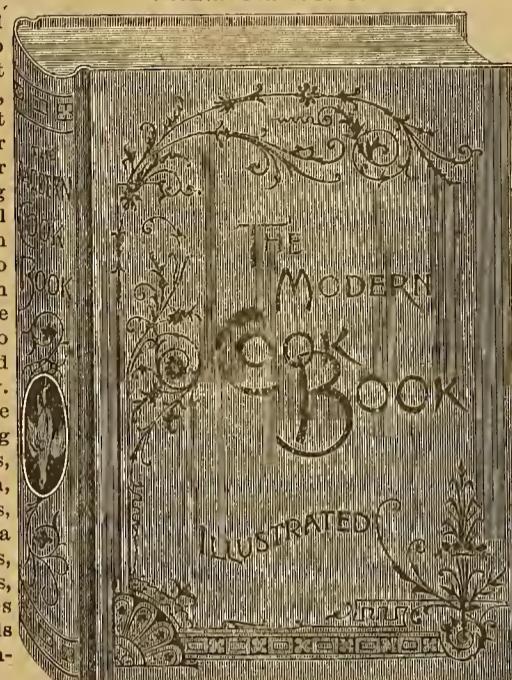
And This Paper One Year 85 Cents,

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It Contains 320 Pages and over 1,200 Recipes, and Its Actual Retail Value is \$2.00.

PREMIUM NO. 8.

Variety is said to be the spice of life, and is likely true. But nowhere is variety so absolutely essential as in cooking. What lady has not asked, time and time again, as meal hour drew nigh, "What shall I get for dinner?" Now, those ladies who get our Cook Book will never ask that question, for they have over 1,200 recipes for cooking palatable food. And the recipes are all practical, too, for they were selected from over 20,000 which were sent us by cooks who know what it means to go into the kitchen and get up a nice meal. Many of these recipes are signed by the ladies who furnished them. 1,200 of these were selected for us by authorities in the art of cookery. Some of its points of excellence are the following: Practical Suggestions to Young Housekeepers, Necessary Kitchen Utensils, Suggestions and Recipes for Soups, Fish, Poultry, Game, Meats, Salads, Sauces, Cachups and Relishes, Breakfast and Tea Dishes, Vegetables, Bread, Biscuit, Pies, Puddings, Cakes, Custards, Desserts, Cookies, Fritters, etc. Also, for Preserves, Candies and Beverages; Cookery for the Sick; Bills of Fare for Family Dinners, Holiday Dinners, etc.



The book is the regular octavo size, of 320 pages. It is printed in large, clear type on good paper, and is durably bound in cloth.

This cloth-bound Cook Book will be sent free, post-paid, to any one subscribing for this paper one year at 85 cents.

We also give this cloth-bound Cook Book as a premium to any one sending two yearly subscribers at 85 cents each if the subscribers want the book also—or for two yearly subscribers at 50 cents each if the subscribers want the paper only—or the subscribers can select any other premiums offered by paying the required amount for the paper one year including that premium. The person sending in the two subscriptions receives the book free as a reward for securing the subscribers.

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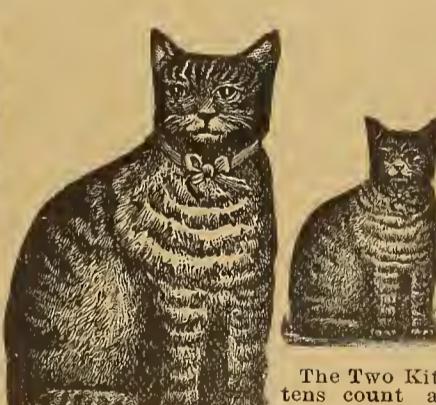
Choice of any three of our "Happy Family" free with One Yearly Subscription at 75 cents—Or given as a premium to any one sending one yearly subscriber to this paper.



"Our Happy Family."

Premium No. 122.

DOLL,
CAT,
TWO KITTENS,
BOW-WOW,
TATTERS.



KITTENS.



BOW-WOW.

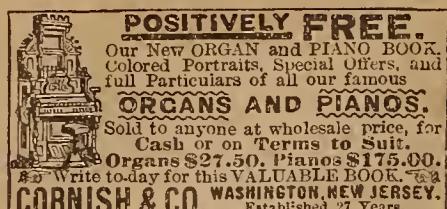
Rag dolls have been loved more than all the creatures of wire, wax and china. No wonder; a rag baby is almost human. But the rag babies of old were cut out of unbleached muslin, without shape or form, while a few strokes of the pen and ink had to indicate eyes, nose and mouth. Now all is different. This doll (and the other articles) is another modern product of the inventor. It is a doll printed out on cloth in several colors, ready to sew up and stuff with cotton, hair or sawdust, and thus gives a pretty doll without weight, and cannot be broken. The doll when made up is 16 inches tall, and shows neat shoes, stockings and dress. This doll will afford much delight to the children. The cat and kittens are very lifelike and seem to be ready to purr, but they do not scratch or have fits. They, too, are printed on strong material—each cat or kitten in three pieces, front, back and feet. They are Maltese in color, and life-size, and children of all ages enjoy cutting them out and creating them with a few stitches and some stuffing. Every home should have them. The poodle-dogs are life-size and appear just as innocent as the live dog. They are of a brownish color. The lap-dogs are also life-size, but of a grayish color, and look just as woolly, and have the same little eyes as in life.

Choice of any three of our "Happy Family" given to any one who subscribes for this paper one year at 75 cents.

Also any Three given as a premium for one yearly subscriber at 75 cents if the subscriber takes three also—or for one yearly subscriber at 50 cents if the subscriber wants the paper only, or the subscriber can have any other premium offered, by paying the required amount for the paper one year including the premium. The person sending us the subscriber gets the premium in any case.

Price of the entire "Happy Family," when purchased, 50 cents; or with Farm and Fireside one year, 90 cents. Price of any one member of our "Happy Family" 10 cents or with Farm and Fireside one year 55 cents. Be sure to name the ones you select. Postage paid by us in each case. Address

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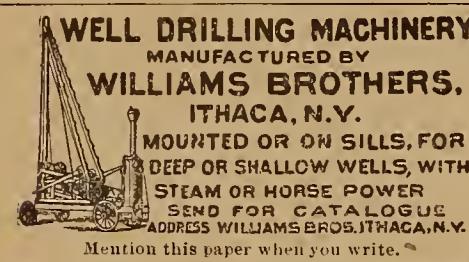
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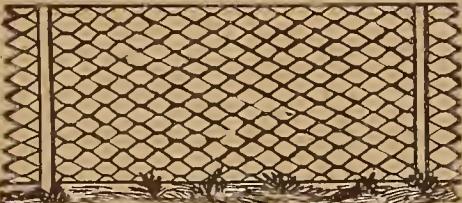
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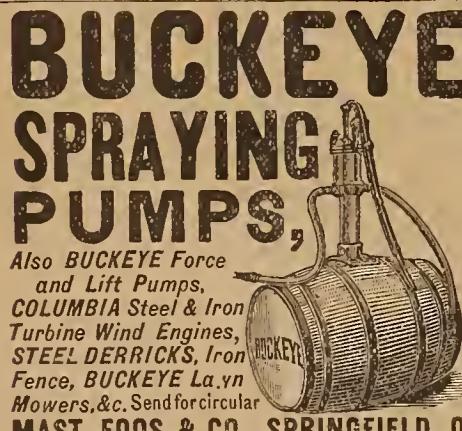
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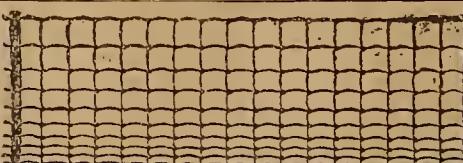
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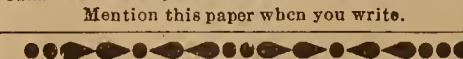
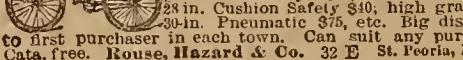
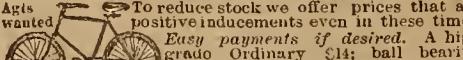
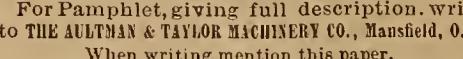
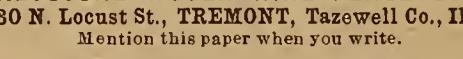
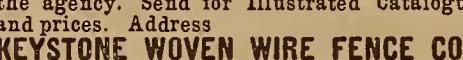
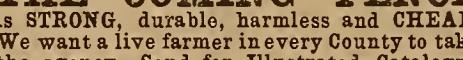
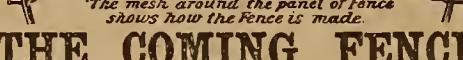
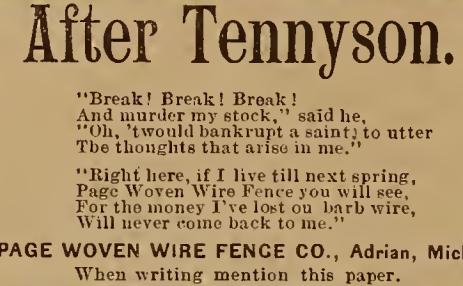
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FARM AND FIRESIDE

EASTERN EDITION.

Entered at the Post-Office at Springfield, Ohio, as second-class mail matter.

VOL. XVII. NO. 9.

FEBRUARY 1, 1894.

TERMS { 50 CENTS A YEAR.
24 NUMBERS.

INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS.

The Circulation of Farm and Fireside
this Issue (February 1st) is

300,000 COPIES.

The statement of the past three months is as follows:

November 1,	-	-	250,400
" 15,	-	-	250,200
December 1,	-	-	500,000
" 15,	-	-	250,400
January 1,	-	-	300,200
" 15,	-	-	300,400
A total of	-	-	1,851,600
Average per issue,	-	-	308,600

Estimating at the usual average of five readers to each copy, Farm and Fireside has

One and a Half Million Readers

Farm and Fireside has More Actual Subscribers than any other Agricultural Journal in the World.

OFFICES:

927 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.,
and Springfield, Ohio.

Topics of the Time.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

There are conditions that make the prospects of labor appear a little more favorable than they have done for some time. Opportunity for some of the unemployed to return to work is promised. The opportunity will be welcomed. Employment at low wages is better than no employment at all. In certain lines production must be increased to meet even the current demands of restricted consumption. The *Financial Review* says:

"Such a paralytic of production as has existed for the last six months is entirely incompatible with supplying the current wants of consumption. Carefully compiled information gathered by one of the commercial agencies from thousands of firms and corporations shows that, for the last six months, the contraction of sales by manufacturers has been much more than double that of merchants, and that, in some important branches of trade, the curtailment of retail sales has been comparatively nominal. The amount of imported merchandise going into consumption at this port (New York), during the last half of 1893, was \$84,000,000 less than for the same time of 1892, which amounts to a decrease of thirty per cent; while, for the last two months, the reduction averaged thirty-six per cent. These facts show that, although the reduction in the supply of goods coming through importation has not quite equaled that which has occurred in domestic sources of supply, yet the curtailment even in this department is in nearly double the ratio of the decline that is shown by Dun's statistics to have occurred in the sales direct to consumers. This process of contraction at the sources of supply, to an extent so entirely disproportionate to the actual consumption, and extending over more than six months, cannot fail to have produced a depletion of stocks of merchandise virtually unprecedented. Merchants whose opinion is en-

titled to respect, tell us that, in the leading branches of trade, the stocks of to-day do not exceed a three weeks' consumption at the present curtailed rate.

These facts have certainly this much significance—whatever else they may imply—that there must be an immediate considerable resumption of production; and that such resumption, if conservatively adjusted to the demand, can be undertaken with a reasonable prospect of profit, for the relation of supply and demand is entirely in favor of the manufacturer. This conclusion is borne out by the process of resumption of work in iron works, in textile factories and in their industries, which is becoming more marked every day. This resumption is also evidence that manufacturers have at last reached a point at which they can approximately estimate the conditions in which they will be placed under the new duties, and that consequently they feel it safe to undertake production to an extent compatible with their being able to control prices, leaving the ultimate rate of output to be determined by the new duties finally established by Congress."

A NEW DICTIONARY.

The publication of a new dictionary is a notable event in the literary world. We acknowledge the receipt of Volume I. of "A Standard Dictionary of the English Language," published by the Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York. The work will be issued in two volumes, also in a single volume. The publishers hope that it will be completed by May 1, 1894. For nearly four years there have been engaged in its production 247 office editors and specialists, also nearly 500 readers for quotations. Besides, hundreds of others have assisted in various ways. It is estimated that the cost of the work will be nearly a million dollars. In its plan the new dictionary differs in many respects from its predecessors. Some of its special and most commendable features are, placing definitions before etymologies, giving the common meaning first when a word has two or more meanings, using the scientific alphabet to give the pronunciation of words, reducing the compounding of words to a scientific system, locating the selected quotations used to illustrate or verify the meaning of words, and adopting the simpler forms of spelling. "The average man (speaking in a general way) goes to a dictionary to find one or more of three things about a word: (1) Its correct spelling, (2) its correct pronunciation, (3) its most common *present* meaning." The plan used enables him to get this information with ease and certainty, and therefore makes this dictionary pre-eminently the best for common use. Its vocabulary is extraordinarily rich and full, containing 280,000 words and terms—55,000 more than its largest predecessor. Briefly, in comprehensiveness, condensation and clearness the new dictionary is unrivaled.

Volume I., containing 1,060 pages, is substantially bound, printed in clear type, on fine paper, and fully and beautifully illustrated. Many of the illustrations are in colors; the one of gems is a masterpiece of lithographic art. In mechanical execution the work is one of the finest specimens of typographic art. Considering that the undertaking was one of the greatest magnitude and importance, requiring the employment of the most expert skill in all its parts, the price is very moderate. The price of the work in single volume is \$12; in two volumes, \$15.

THE BOND ISSUE.

By virtue of the authority contained in the act of January 4, 1875, entitled "an act to provide for the resumption of specie payments," Secretary Carlisle offers for public subscription an issue of \$50,000,000 United States bonds, redeemable in coin at the pleasure of the government after ten years from the date of issue, bearing interest at five per cent per annum. These bonds are to be sold to the highest bidders, but none will be sold at a less premium than .17223, which is the equivalent of a three-per-cent bond at par. Sold at the minimum price named in the offer, the issue of \$50,000,000 bonds would realize \$58,611,500. For the use of this money obtained from the sale of ten-year bonds the government will have to pay at least \$25,000,000 in interest. How many times this issue of \$50,000,000 bonds will be repeated is not now known. It is well known, however, that the expenses of running the government will be increased by the amount of interest paid on bonds. The increase of the interest-bearing debt of the United States is decidedly unfavorable to the interests of taxpayers.

This issue of bonds is ostensibly for the purpose of replenishing the redemption fund of \$100,000,000, which has been reduced about \$25,000,000. But as this fund is being invaded daily for money to meet the current expenses of the government, it is for this purpose that the bonds are really issued. There is much difference of opinion as to the legality of this act of the secretary of the treasury. But owing to the utter uncertainty of the outcome of congressional deliberations on revenue measures, the secretary was forced to take some action without waiting longer for Congress to give him the authority he asked for. Under the circumstances it was the only thing left for him to do.

SIC TRANSIT GLORIA MUNDI.

"And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, * * * shall dissolve,
And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind."

Thus passes away the Dream City—the glory of the world. Part of it is passing away gradually and ordinarily; part suddenly and dramatically; all regrettably.

The stately Peristyle, with its massive columns, heroic statues and Quadriga-crowned, triumphal arch, and its marble-like wings, the Casino and Music Hall, have vanished. An unknown Neronian tramp applied the torch, and "Fire Uncontrolled" swiftly changed to vapor and dust the lake portal to the Court of Honor Beautiful of the White City Wonderful.

That imperial Court of Honor was the grandest ideal of beauty in architecture ever made real.

"Not Babylon,
Nor great Alcairo, such magnificence
Equal'd in all their glories."

Now is its glory darkened, its majesty marred, its harmony broken. With the magnificent palaces that remain, time will deal no less gently, if not so suddenly. Soon all will have passed away.

The whole Columbian Exposition—its buildings in their environment and all they contained, and the administration of its affairs—formed an unparalleled display of the power of the arts, sciences and industries in sisterhood and men in brotherhood. Designed originally to celebrate in 1892 the four centuries of America's progress, it became the glorious dawn of a new era. The crowning achievement to

commemorate the past became the prophecy of the future.

In the hush of a civic tragedy it closed; its ceremonies, congresses, pageants, illuminations, music, ceased. Its exhibits—gems worthy of their caskets—removed, its streets deserted, the Magic City itself is dissolving, like the vision before Prospero's wand.

But of all this shall there not be left behind even a "rack?" Its influence and inspiration continue. Part of it abides in memory. The art preservative has garnered its choicest treasures in illustrated Books of the Fair. The sun that beamed on the White City so many cloudless summer days photographically perpetuated many of its sights, scenes and splendors. And millions can now before them lay the whole Panorama of the Fair. It was not

"All a fleeting show,
For man's illusion given."
"Of the vanished dream"
An "image is there left to him."

TUBERCULIN.

Tuberculin is a ptomaine produced by the action of the tubercle-bacillus. It was first prepared from cultures of the tubercle-bacillus in 1890 by Dr. Koch, an eminent German scientist. At that time enthusiasts made extravagant claims for it as a specific remedy for tuberculosis. Tests failed to verify these claims. Tuberculin, however, has been found to be just what its discoverer claimed, a valuable aid in the diagnosis of suspected or doubtful cases of consumption. A hypodermic injection of tuberculin in a person or animal infected with the disease is always followed within a few hours by a rise of temperature. If free from the disease, no fever is produced. So uniform has been this result from a long series of tests, that tuberculin is now considered an invaluable means of determining the existence of tuberculosis, even in its earliest stages. The diagnosis made with tuberculin has been invariably confirmed by post-mortem examination. This has led to a wide application of the test to cattle.

Approximately one seventh of the human race perish from consumption. Among the principal means by which the virus of this dangerous disease is spread is the use as food of the flesh and milk of infected cattle. Tuberculin tests show that tuberculosis in cattle prevails to a much greater extent than ever suspected.

A breeder of thoroughbred cattle says in the *New York Medical Record*:

"The New York state board of health is killing by the hundred animals condemned by diagnosis with tuberculin, and the state is paying full value for them. The veterinarian says that the autopsy shows the diagnosis to be correct in every case. He says also that it is impossible for the best veterinarian to discover tuberculosis by physical examination except in extreme cases. My herd is apparently in spleenid condition. Breeders do not know of its existence in their herds. They let a cow remain in the herd until she is unquestionably tuberculous, and then remove her; but she has then already infected the herd. A temperature of 102 degrees Fahrenheit condemns the cow. In a herd of Jerseys, at Troy, of eighty head, he has killed thirty-three, and will kill twenty more of them this week. Autopsies are held in the presence of physicians and veterinarians. There have been 15,000 tests with tuberculin in England. New York evidently believes in this kind of diagnosis, and will probably have to pay \$500,000 to eradicate tuberculosis. The veterinarian says the state is full of it, in herds both of thoroughbreds and common cows."

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Silver, when sent through the mail, should be carefully wrapped in cloth or strong paper, so as not to wear a hole through the envelope and get lost. Postage stamps will be received in payment for subscriptions in sums less than one dollar, if for every 25 cents sent to us one extra cent is included. For example, send 26 cents in stamps when you want to send 25 cents cash, or 52 cents in stamps for 50 cents cash, or 78 cents in stamps for 75 cents cash.

The date on the "yellow label" shows the time to which each subscriber has paid.

When money is received the date will be changed, which will answer for a receipt.

When renewing your subscription, do not fail to say it is a renewal. If all of our subscribers will do this, a great deal of trouble will be avoided. Also, give your name and initials just as now on the yellow address label; don't change it to some other member of the family; if the paper is now coming in your wife's name, sign her name, just as it is on label, to your letter of renewal. Always name your post-office.

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The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Bisulphide of Carbon Is sure death to insects in stored grain. One of the first indications that the weevil or other insects are working in stored grain is an increase in the temperature of the mass. If this is noticed, examine the grain carefully for insects. If the bin is tight, pour some bisulphide of carbon into dishes, place them on top of the grain and close up the bin. The fumes of this volatile liquid being heavier than air will sink down and spread through the grain, and destroy the insects and their eggs. As the vapor of this chemical is highly inflammable, no flames should be allowed near it.

Wonderful Cow-pea. Of this new forage plant the California agricultural experiment station says: "In view of the great industrial value of the cow-pea in the southern states, there is a wide disposition to try it in California. We are fortunate in receiving from D. M. Dimmick, of Santa Barbara county, a supply of seed of the new cow-pea, 'Wonderful,' which is believed to be the best of its kind. It yielded a very large amount of forage and peas for Mr. Dimmick, and keeps green on his land until destroyed by frost. The pods are very long, and carry as many as eighteen peas to the pod. It is not likely that it will do so well away from the coast, except perhaps on moist or irrigated land, but it is worth a trial everywhere. Mr. Dimmick says the plant is about as tender as the Lima bean, and should be planted about the same time, as it is liable to rot in the ground if planted too early. Put two peas in a hill, the hills eighteen inches apart in rows three feet wide."

Canned Tomatoes. The American Grocer reports the output of canned tomatoes in the United States and Canada, for the year 1893, at 4,395,543 cases, an excess over 1892 of 1,028,814 cases. The total output is equivalent to 105,493,032 tins, a quantity sufficient to give each family of five persons eight tins per annum. The total is a larger quantity than ever before reported. Had it not been for the long summer drought, which cut off the yield of tomatoes in New York, Ohio and other western states, the pack would have reached 4,500,000 to 5,000,000 cases, or fully 1,000,000 cases beyond the annual requirements of the United States and Canada. The year was a good one for the packers, as the sales for future delivery during the first half of 1893 were unusually heavy. High prices for canned tomatoes during May, June and July last stimulated the industry, and led to the planting of a largely increased area. Fortunately, the crop was short in some sections, and thus an overstocked market was prevented.

Oleomargarine That has not had butter mixed with it may be detected by a very simple test. Place a small quantity of the suspected article in a tin cup and heat it on the stove. At the same time and in the same way heat some pure butter. Observe how each sample acts. Butter melts quickly, gives off its characteristic odor and foams considerably. The oleomargarine will not foam at all, but will sputter and act like hot lard with water spilled in it.

The National Dairy Union Is an association recently organized by dairymen. Its objects, as set forth in its constitution, are "to secure national and state legislation to prevent the manufacture and sale of food products made in imitation or semblance of pure butter or cheese," and "to assist in the effective and thorough enforcement of existing laws and such future laws as may be enacted for the purposes set forth." The secretary of the association is D. W. Willson, Elgin, Ill.; the president, C. W. Horr, Wellington, Ohio. In his closing address the president said: "We will never stop until we have compelled, if we cannot persuade, Congress and state legislatures to put a stop to the sale of oleomargarine and other counterfeits made in imitation of butter."

A National Dairy Convention Composed of delegates from state dairy associations, will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, February 7th. A national dairy association is to be organized, with the following objects in view:

"That all newly-discovered methods or facts which may become known to any state association may, through the medium of the national association, become known to all.

"To provide an authentic channel through which all dairymen may give to the department of agriculture that loyal support which is due from all citizens, and receive in return reports of the work of the department in behalf of the dairy and kindred interests."

The Ohio Wool Growers' Association held its annual meeting at Columbus, January 10th. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, President Cleveland's message to Congress December 6, 1887, declared that changes in the tariff "should be devised with especial precaution against imperiling the existence of our manufacturing interests;" and whereas, the report of the committee on ways and means in the national house of representatives on the "Wilson bill," December 19, 1893, declares that it is "not purged of all protection," and that "great interests do exist, whose existence and prosperity it is no part of our reform [the bill] either to imperil or curtail;" and whereas, the protection given by the Wilson bill is chiefly for manufacturing industries, disregarding the interests of farmers by placing wool on the free list; therefore, be it

Resolved, That in the name of the 80,000 wool growers of Ohio, we denounce this discrimination against the farmers of this country as invidious and unjust, and if enacted into law it will substantially destroy sheep husbandry in the United States.

2. That we urge the people of Ohio, without regard to past political party associations, to send to Congress remonstrances against the colossal political crime of free wool, and in favor of adequate protection for sheep husbandry.

3. That we will oppose the nomination or election of any candidate for either branch of Congress who will not aid in securing adequate protection for the wool industry.

4. That we urge the wool growers of the United States to sustain the national wool growers' association, and to maintain state and county associations, and that they send representatives to our wool growers' meeting at Washington, D. C., February 6th, to be heard before the committee of finance of the senate in opposition to free wool.

5. That the wool growers' meeting at Washington be requested to consider the expediency of urging the wool growers of the United States to unite with the Patrons of Husbandry to secure organized action in favor of adequate protection for the wool industry so long as the law shall give protective duties for any other industry.

6. That we favor adequate protection for the allied industries of wool manufacturing and wool growing, without which neither can survive, and if farmers are alienated from protection by free wool, free goods will inevitably come.

NOTES OF RURAL INTEREST.

TILLAGE AND MANURE.

The question has recently been discussed in agricultural papers, how much manure can be used profitably in ordinary farm-crop rotation. The estimates go widely apart. Some farmers want fifteen loads per acre every year, while others, and experts among them, say five are enough. One thing is sure. Manure, no matter how liberally applied, will not make up for drainage and tillage on soils of a somewhat clayey character. Want of perfect drainage has prevented the production of heavy crops, and consequently the removal of much plant-foods. The soil, then, is yet well supplied, but it is difficult to make use of it simply because you cannot easily break up the soil finely enough so the plant roots can get hold of it. Now put drains enough in such land that the water will not stand on the surface for any length of time after heavy rains or sudden thaws, and then note the difference in the way the soil works and how nicely it plowizes. This is not a new observation. Yet thousands of farmers keep on trying to raise good crops among hard lumps and chunks of clay, and invariably fail. Drainage, in a measure, will make up for tillage, and tillage in a measure for manure. I therefore place drainage first, tillage next, and manure third in importance.

Part of the farm here consists of just such land without sufficient drainage. For years it has been a mass of clods and lumps, and resisted all efforts to get it into the desired state of fineness by plowing and working in spring. Last fall I had it plowed in very narrow beds, thus providing a thorough system of surface drainage. Part of these narrow beds were put in rye. The ground was then in best order, and made as fine and smooth as a garden plot. The rye has made a good growth, and no water now remains on the surface at any time. It now looks as if there would be a heavy crop of rye this year.

But I have not yet answered the question, "How much manure should be applied, year after year, on such soils after they are once thoroughly drained?" Students of agricultural chemistry will easily figure out good crops in the ordinary five-year rotation—clover, corn, potatoes, oats, wheat—will remove almost the exact amount of plant-foods that is found in thirty loads of good, average mixed barnyard manure, and that therefore an annual application of six (two-horse) loads per acre will make up for the loss. Soil and subsoil, as well as atmosphere through clover, can well be depended upon to furnish a material addition; and the land, under this system of cropping and manuring, should increase in fertility from year to year. In short, I believe that with good drainage and good tillage our average heavier soils will gain rather than lose in productiveness when the annual application answers the lowest estimate of five loads per acre. Lighter soils, which usually have the advantage of perfect natural drainage, seem to give up the plant-foods applied more easily; in other words, be more wasteful with them, and the annual applications may have to be larger.

FEEDING HORSES AND CATTLE.

Now as hay is high in price, the question of utilizing substitutes for hay is an important one. It is treated in bulletin 96 of the New Jersey experiment station. This bulletin, among other things, cites from a circular issued by the French minister of agriculture, as follows: "100 pounds of hay, of good average quality, can be replaced by either 170 pounds of oat straw, 237 pounds of wheat straw, 150 pounds of husks of oats, 193 pounds of wheat chaff, 145 pounds of potatoes, 300 pounds of forage beets, etc." It is supposed that twenty pounds of good hay a day provide the necessary nourishment for a horse of one thousand pounds live weight. Equivalent rations for these twenty pounds are given as twelve pounds of hay and five pounds of oats; or six pounds of wheat straw and eight pounds of oats, etc. All these figures are interesting, as they will give to the ordinary farmer some idea of the relative feeding values of hay, straws, grains and roots, and the quantities required to properly nourish an animal.

Of straw and corn stalks the bulletin speaks as "our more valuable farm products, now so carelessly handled and wastefully used, and which experimental tests have shown to contain almost as much nutriment, ton for ton, as meadow hay." These for us are the chief substitutes for

hay. In the case of straw, many farmers insist that, although it may possess feeding value, it is more useful as bedding and manure than as feed. Straw has a decided value for these purposes; but if farmers recognized that straw trodden into the mire of an open yard is not good bedding, and that the resultant product is not good manure, there would in many instances be a considerable quantity left for feed after the legitimate uses of bedding were served.

The bulletin also calls attention to it that corn stalks and straw in their original state are not readily and completely eaten by animals. To insure the minimum waste, they must be cut, and the coarser and finer portions intimately mixed, and feeds of known relish added. In England the cut hay, straw and other coarse products are mixed with sliced roots, the feeds added, the whole mass thoroughly mixed and allowed to remain some time before feeding. This method doubtless adds to both the palatability and digestibility of the foods, and is to be recommended where circumstances permit. The question is whether it will pay farmers to invest in machinery for this purpose. For dairy farmers there can be no question as to the advisability of such a course, since in feeding corn stalks whole in the usual manner, from one third to one half of the food contained in them is wasted. Where only few animals are kept it becomes a proper question for consideration, though a saving of two or three tons of hay at present prices would pay for a good feed-cutter. One good cutter, too, might serve for several farmers in a neighborhood, until its usefulness was thoroughly established.

TURKEY RAISING.

I have been much interested in a bulletin of the Rhode Island station, which tells of their experiments with turkeys, especially with wild crosses. There was a time when I raised quite a flock of turkeys every year; but that was when I lived in a hilly country, with plenty of woods about, and the conveniences of a large, somewhat lonely farm. Sometimes I had good luck with them; sometimes the little turkey chicks would die by the score, in spite of all I could do for them, and at other times foxes would make sad havoc among my young flocks in the woods. Domestication degenerates. The great trouble is we are trying to make them thrive on food and under conditions entirely different from what they find in their wild state. If a hen is allowed to take her flock off and roam at will, she will not lose one by disease. The woods are often the safest place for them, if there are no foxes, hawks, etc. The advice about raising turkeys, found in the bulletin, might be briefly stated as follows: (1) Get good breeding stock; rather lean than fat. (2) Separate every sick bird from the flock. Kill and bury it, and disinfect what is contaminated by it. (3) Exterminate lice by greasing the top of the chick's head with carbolic acid. Do not set eggs under vermin-infested hens, or put little turkeys in lousy coops. (4) Feed little and often. Give cooked food until the chicks begin to show the reds about their heads. (5) Provide green food, like chopped onions and lettuce, if they are confined to a pen. (6) If the little turkeys are cooped, remove them to fresh, dry ground frequently. Dampness, lice and filth make short work of them. (7) Give them their food on clean surfaces. (8) Give them water to drink that is fresh and pure, and clean the dishes every time they are filled. (9) Let them have access to fine gravel, crushed shells and broken charcoal. (10) Keep them out of heavy showers. If they get wet, put them in a warm room to dry. Black and red pepper and ginger in the food or drinking-water aid them in overcoming a chill, and are of great value on cold and damp days, and a preventive of bowel troubles in both young and old turkeys.

The crossing with wild gobblers from time to time imparts a good deal of the original hardiness into the domestic race. Wild-turkey crosses are harder and healthier than the common turkeys, and rarely have disease. Half-blood gobblers are not as wild as half-blood hens, and suitable for crossing with domestic hens. A small proportion of wild blood improves the size, form and general appearance, as well as the vigor, without being a disadvantage in any way. A quarter-wild cross is better for practical breeding than pure-wild or half-wild bird. Half-wild crosses do well if allowed a large range, but are not well suited for woody countries.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

CORN CULTURE IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

I remember well when sixty years ago I, a large boy of seventeen, with father and brother, raised the last crop of corn on our farm, one half mile east of Watertown, N. Y. The farm was little more than a ledge of lime-rocks, with a little soil on top. Nearly all the work was done by hand with the hoe, and the crop sold at about fifty cents per bushel. Farmers then did not say that farming did not pay. They supported their families well and gave their children a fair education, and were happy.

But we were fortunate when we exchanged that pile of rocks for thrice the number of acres in the fertile forests of northern Ohio. But the westward flowing tide bore me on until I was stranded on the great fertile bottoms of the Missouri, in South Dakota. These bottoms extend from Yankton to Sioux City, a distance of sixty miles, and vary in width from six to ten miles. Though all crops do well, I intend to speak mainly of corn, which is our principal one. Though these alluvial bottoms can hardly be excelled for fertility, money in corn must be preceded by thorough cultivation.

The common practice is to use three horses before the plow, which will turn two and one half or three acres seven inches deep a day, at a cost of one dollar per acre. When the plowing is completed, the team is hitched to a wide, steel harrow, which fines and smooths the sand very rapidly. The check-row planter is next brought into use. Some of the large farmers, who plow a hundred acres or more, use the planter sixteen or eighteen hours a day by changing hands and teams, thus putting in twenty acres a day. I obtain the best results by running the cultivator lightly through very soon after planting, sometimes commencing the next day; of course, the same way the planter was run. This is followed by the harrow, with the teeth sloping back at an angle of about 45 degrees. This destroys all weeds that may have germinated, so that when the corn is up enough for the cultivator again the surface is perfectly smooth and mellow, and no weeds are to be seen.

The cultivator should be kept at work through the season. Our best cultivators go through their corn four times, not merely to kill the weeds, but to keep the soil well stirred and the surface as mellow as possible. The early cultivation is not generally practiced, but I regard it of great importance to secure the best results, though it cannot be advantageously done unless the surface is made very fine before planting.

It is hard to find anything more pleasing to the eye of a South Dakota farmer than our immense fields of corns, with their straight rows a half mile or more in length. Corn thus cultivated in ordinary seasons will yield from forty to sixty bushels an acre. Last season was an unusually good one here, and many fields yielded as high as seventy bushels an acre. The price paid for corn for several years past during the best of the season has been from twenty-five to thirty cents per bushel, though sometimes higher. A man and team can cultivate and crib forty acres, working from two and one half to three months.

Meckling, S. D.

L. H.

HOW TO USE COTTON-SEED MEAL.

It should be mixed with hay, mill feed and corn-meal. Be careful not to give too much; begin with a small quantity—a handful, then two—and increase as your cattle get used to it.

For milk, butter and beef, give two quarts of cotton-seed meal, add five quarts of bran, two quarts of corn-meal, and a little linseed-meal, to prevent constipation. Dampen, so that the cotton-seed meal, bran and ground grain will stick together and mix well.

These are daily rations for cows, or cattle of heavy weight. Do not give young cattle as much. Feed calves one half pint and lambs one gill daily, mixed with other food. Do not feed cotton-seed meal to very young lambs or calves. You will get very rich butter, firm and solid, and a number one beef. The value of the manure is very large, more than one thinks for. The best meal sells at wholesale in New York at twenty-five to twenty-six dollars for best quality for feeding, and less for fertilizing grades.

A good many farmers now include cotton-seed meal in their feeding rations, while its superior fertilizing value is unquestioned. I think that the demand for it will keep on the increase yearly, as fast as consumers get better acquainted with it.

EDWARD A. MOORE.

BICYCLE BEARINGS ON HARVESTING MACHINES.

Ten years ago ball bearings were almost unknown. To-day they are successfully applied to all sorts of machinery, from the wood-carver's lathe, with its thirty thousand revolutions a minute, to electric dynamos and palace-cars. In the bicycle, of course, these bearings have received their widest introduction, and to their unqualified success thus applied is doubtless due their adoption to other machines.

The latest adoption of ball bearings is their application, in a modified form, to harvesting machinery, by William Deering & Co., of Chicago. As applied to their pony self-binder, they have reduced draft more than one third; while their application to the ideal mower is said to have reduced the draft of that machine to a figure but little over half that of the ordinary mower of the same size and weight. These machines attracted widespread attention and were awarded medals and diplomas at the world's fair.

For use in heavy machinery the ball is modified into a roller, a set of rollers intervening between the axle and the journal which surrounds the shafts. These rollers change sliding contact into rolling contact. Their saving of friction is illustrated by the difference between sliding across the floor on shoe soles and on rollerskates, the roller bearings answering for rollerskates to the axle.

HOW IT WORKS ON HEAVY MACHINERY.

It seems to be only a question of time when all engines and passenger coaches will be fitted with ball and roller bearings. The *Locomotive Engineer*, in describing a test with rollers, says:

"Two trains of the same weight (102 tons) and engine, one with roller bearings and one with ordinary bearings, made a trip of 270 miles. The one with ordinary bearings used 14,800 pounds of coal during the trip, 3,276 pounds to start. The one with roller bearings used only 11,100 pounds of coal, and only 252 pounds to start. In a gravity test down a slight grade to a level, the first ran 100 feet beyond the incline, and the second, with roller bearings, ran 534 feet beyond the incline." The *Implement and Machinery Review* for December is authority for the statement that heavy milling machines, capstan lathes, large vertical pulleys, drills, wood-working, wood-carving and other machines are to-day in actual work in English engineering shops, all running with ball or roller bearings, and that dynamos similarly fitted are running with great smoothness at a speed of over one thousand revolutions a minute, without sign of heating. A. H. Tyler, in a recent number of *Engineering*, states that he has ball bearings at work on the spindles of wood-carving machines making as many as 30,000 revolutions a minute and that they run perfectly cool without ever being oiled.

IMPORTANCE OF THE NEW APPLICATION.

Great as has been the field of usefulness of ball and roller bearings as applied to bicycles, and the other branches of machinery just mentioned, it seems probable their highest mission is just being reached by their application to harvesting machinery. This becomes evident when it is remembered that harvesting machines, necessarily heavy, must be drawn by horses over ground necessarily soft, at the same time driving the operating mechanism of the machine; conditions that are not met in any other branch of machinery. A farmer's grain ripens all at once, and has to be cut in the brief period of time elapsing between the condition in which it is too green and too ripe. The same is true with his grass. Any mechanism that lightens the work on the horses and enables them to cover more ground in a given time will be the means of saving millions of dollars annually to agriculture.

It is safe to say that this new improvement to harvesting machinery, fathered as it is by the largest firm of the kind in the world, will meet with the most enthusiastic reception, and that at no distant date it will be as difficult to sell harvesting machines without such bearings as it is now to dispose of an old "parallel bearing" bicycle.

WINTER WORK FOR THE HORTICULTURIST.

Open winter weather, such as we had in the latter part of December, reaching into the new year, gives an opportunity to do many odd jobs that would otherwise be deferred until April. All kinds of pruning may be done, and such grubbing and chopping as may be necessary. It has generally been taught that pruning must not be done until cold weather is past, but the necessities of large orchardists, with considerable idle help on hand in winter, has led to experiments in this direction, and no injury resulting from pruning in open weather, many do all of it in winter. This is done as far north as Michigan and in New York. In the fruit centers in the latter state—on the Hudson, at Geneva, Lockport, Rochester and Brocton—one can see men at work on any mild day, pruning orchards and vineyards.

While too much open weather in winter is a cause of serious loss to the fruit grower, a few warm days in December are often quite welcome. To the fruit grower who combines it with market gardening, as many do, the summer months are months of intense activity, some of the days beginning before daylight and ending at bedtime, and not chicken bedtime, either. During these busy days there is much of trimming and "slicking up" that has to be postponed, and on my place this is especially true in June and July, when I have to devote all my own energies to selling berries and providing hay for the rest of the year.

August generally brings me a little respite from daily absence, and I generally find time to catch up a little, but last summer sickness claimed a portion of my time, and I was obliged to content myself with doing as little as possible. For this reason there was much that I could do better than hired help could do it, that was not done, and I was very glad to have some open weather this winter when such jobs could be done.

REPAIRING GREENHOUSE.

One of the jobs deferred was the repairing of the greenhouse. For two or three years it has only been run during the spring months, heating it up in February. I have so much to do in the autumn that I find it pays me better to buy in a stock of young bedding plants in March, and grow them in connection with vegetable plants, than to be at the bother of putting in stock plants, and having the expense of firing through the cold months. If I lived in the edge of a village, it would probably pay to enlarge and keep a man especially to look after the greenhouse, but as I am situated it will not.

When winter set in there was a good deal of glass slipped down or broken, and I was figuring on some very cold and disagreeable hours' work to fix it, but when a warm day came, I got at it and reset and put into position the broken and loose glass, simply "sprigging" it down. This took only a short time, occupying, with some other outside repairing, less than two days. Had I stopped to putty it in the old-fashioned way it would have taken a week, but thanks to certain advanced methods, I was not compelled to do this. The houses were not to be used immediately, so temporary fastening answered, for the balance of the work could be done at any time when the sash-bars were dry.

To finish the job, I mixed white paint with putty until it was about like thick cream. This was put into an insect-powder gun and a little stream of the liquid putty distributed at the juncture of glass and sash-bar. While this was being done, I had some fine, white sand baking in the oven, and this, when dry and as hot as I could handle, was sprinkled on the putty. The combination forms a cement that nothing but a chisel will remove, and holds the glass as in a vise. The insect-gu is a rubber bulb about the size of a duck egg, with a tin, tapering nozzle. This tin nozzle screws on, and when off leaves a mouth nearly three quarters of an inch in diameter, which makes it easy to fill. It is not easy to clean up after use, so that it can be kept for future use, but it only costs fifteen cents, and as one can save two hours out of every three over the old way of putting, it does not take long to save its cost in time, saying nothing about its being so much more permanent.

TRIMMING HEDGES.

Another job that I have been doing was the cutting back of some arbor-vite hedges. Along the street line in front of my house is one of these hedges. It had been neglected for half a dozen years, until it was about eleven feet high in spots. I cut it

back to five feet, making my chin the gage. The stems were about the size of broom-handles, and the top presents, since trimming, a bare and unsightly appearance, and to an inexperienced person looks as if it was permanently injured. "Why, how it looks!" some exclaim, and others less blunt put their thoughts in other words by asking if it will not kill it, their tone implying that it wouldn't be much matter if it would. To such I answer it will not.

It is one of our hardest trees, and the base of green, thrifty boughs six feet wide will grow all the thriftier, and before mid-summer will entirely hide the unsightly stumps. Where the bottom branches are green and vigorous, the cutting off of the top of an evergreen will always result in a thickening up of the growth and increased beauty of form and appearance. I might have stuck the tops down through the hedge and thus have screened the protruding stumps, and given it a dressed-up appearance for a few weeks, but I preferred to use them for mulching some strawberry rows that were so near the railroad that I dare not use straw.

CUTTINGS AND GRAFTS.

These may be cut at any time in winter when they are not frozen, and the sooner the better. There are in every community local varieties of considerable merit that cannot be obtained at the nurseries; there are also varieties that are such poor growers that many nurserymen do not propagate them, or if they do, can only furnish crooked or inferior-sized trees. The Damson plum, the Canada red apple, the Bosc and Nellis pears are cases in point. There are on every farm and in almost every dooryard undesirable fruits that may profitably be regrafted to better kinds, and the sooner it is done the less time will be lost. If a person cuts his own grafts, and either puts them in himself or has some one do it, then there is no doubt in the case, and sooner or later will have kinds true to name, and a source of satisfaction and profit.

The scions should be tied in small bundles of not more than two inches in diameter with wire and plainly labeled. As pencil and ink marks often become invisible, I take a square pine stick about one fourth inch big and the length of the scions, and cut Roman numerals in one side. (See



illustration.) The numerals are transferred to a pocket diary or day-book, with the kind of scion they represent opposite, and the label is tied up with the scions. The scions should be packed in wet sawdust or sphagnum (the latter is better), placed in a box and set on the north side of a building, and when frozen solid, placed in an ice-house. If no ice-house is available, then let them stand on the ground until covered with snow and ice, and then cover with a foot of straw. This will generally keep frozen until it is time to use them in April. They may also be kept in a cool cellar, but cannot be used so late in the spring. Cuttings of grapes, shrubbery, etc., may be packed and labeled in the same way, but should not be frozen, but may be kept in the cellar or buried in the ground.

L. B. PIERCE.

The philanthropic advocate of free wool pleads for the great mass of laboring men who would get cheaper clothing. The average suit of jeans worn by the laboring element of this country does not contain one pound of wool. How much would free wool benefit this poor man?—*American Sheep Breeder*.

Prevent the Grip

Dr. Cyrus Edson of the New York Board of Health says that to prevent the Grip, you should avoid exposure in inclement weather, and keep your strength up, your blood in good condition and your digestive organs in regular action. The tonic and alterative effects of Hood's Sarsaparilla so happily meet the last three conditions, that with the protection given by this medicine you need not fear the Grip. Many people confidently rely upon Hood's Sarsaparilla for protection from the Grip, Fevers, etc.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is an inexpensive medicine, and a single bottle may save you many dollars in doctors' bills and much suffering. Truly an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Be sure to get Hood's.

Hood's Pills act easily, yet promptly and efficiently, on the liver and bowels. 25c.

Our Farm.

GARDEN AND FIELD NOTES.

FRUITS FOR PROFIT.—I think I have at an earlier opportunity mentioned the unusual success which one of my neighbors has made in growing Bartlett pears for market. I know that in one year he sold the crop from his two acres for almost \$3,000; in the year following for about \$2,000, and at other times for \$1,200 and \$1,500. This season has been the poorest in years for him, the crop not being as large as usual, and the price far below the average. Still, the two acres have paid better than any other two acres on the large farm, and their yield would have sufficed to support almost any ordinary farmer's family fairly well. Indeed, I know more farmers who have to live on a smaller income than who have a larger one. In short, this man's fruit growing pays, pays well, and with all the drawbacks of this season, will continue to pay. Now, having told this, I know that there are lots of readers who think this is a chance for them, and will want to go at it right away, and plant a Bartlett pear orchard. Hold on a minute.

In the first place this is a pear country. The clay loams hereabouts seem to suit pears to perfection, and especially the Bartlett. Give the Bartlett half a chance here, and it will do well. This is not the case everywhere, and on all soils. How much a protected situation (being surrounded by orchards and buildings) has to do with my neighbor's eminent success, I do not know; but of this I am well aware, that said neighbor knows how to manage his trees. He neither allows them to be choked out by grass or grain, nor to be starved out by want of food. The trees stand close, only twelve or fifteen feet apart each way; they have full possession of the soil, and are given constant and clean tillage. The ground is plowed in early spring, and then thoroughly harrowed over almost every week until mid-season, when cultivation ceases for awhile. Another plowing is given just before winter. This is intended to provide a mulch of loose soil for winter protection. The large crops require plenty of plant-foods, and these are provided by an annual heavy coat of old cow manure, which can be purchased at a dairy in the vicinity at fifty cents a two or three horse load. This tells the whole story, the right location, the right soil, the right treatment, these links form a strong chain; but when any link is weak, the whole chain is weak. Before any of my friends will start out to imitate my neighbor's success, let them inquire, first of all, whether location and soil are right. If there is no weak spot in these conditions, and you feel confident that you are the person to manage the thing all right, then it will be safe to embark in the enterprise.

DRAINAGE.—One thing, however, needs to be especially emphasized. Never expect to make a success of growing the ordinary tree fruits, and other fruits as well, except on soil that is thoroughly drained. Trees may grow all right, even if the drainage is not quite what it should be; but in that case the blights and scabs which at the present time are threatening the very existence of profitable fruit culture, will be all the more liable to attack trees and fruit, and to destroy our chances of success. Orchards in this part of the country, to do as well, need tile drainage, and the tile lines pretty close together, besides. If there are only drains enough to remove the largest share of the excess of water, you will find that the trees are more subject to disease, and less liable to give regular and satisfactory crops and fine fruits, than when there are drains enough to remove all surface water promptly. That this has a more general application, an application to almost all crops, I have tried to emphasize elsewhere in this issue.

FEEDING FRUIT-TREES.—The first aim in starting an orchard is to make a strong, healthy growth of wood. Our average clay loams contain all the plant-foods needed during this period of wood formation. When, in setting the young trees, you have mixed a shovelful or two of nice old compost with the good surface soil, and packed this well around the roots of the tree, you have done about all that you can to give the tree a good start in life. And if afterward you utilize the spaces between the tree rows for growing beans, or cabbages, or potatoes, etc., for a few

years, and give to these crops a moderate amount of the plant-foods they need, it will not be required for you to throw a lot of manure around the trees. They will need little additional manuring, although a few handfuls of bone (and potash on lighter soils) will do no harm. Good cultivation will bring the strong wood growth desired. But when the trees begin to bear, and especially while they are bearing full crops, they need help from without, and the owner can hardly be too liberal in his applications of fertilizing materials. Bone, potash, ashes, etc., may be all right; but even stable manure will not come amiss during the periods of heavy fruit production. Only let it be in proportion to the amount of crops. Let there be enough of it.

PROSPECTIVE PROFITS.—When an especially shining example of profits leads us into wholesale planting of a fruit crop, we often find, when the trees or vines come to be of bearing age, that the favorable conditions which made the crop at the one time so profitable, have changed or do not exist any more. Apples may be named as one instance. The apple crop in this county used to be regular and reliable, and was an exceedingly profitable one. People have planted extensive orchards, and for awhile made money. Then came the seab, and with it bad years, and failures partial or complete. Where are the profits now? There may be another change, however, and the trees may again begin to bear more regularly, and bring good returns. I, for my part, expect a good crop this year, simply because the trees had healthy foliage last year, and a chance to ripen their wood.

Peaches are another instance of this kind. Years ago the peach crops were large, reliable and highly remunerative. People set out orchard after orchard. Then came the yellows, and swept the orchards out of existence. Now the peach crop is unreliable, and one year with another, not any too profitable.

JOSEPH.

Orchard and Small Fruits.

CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

PECANS.

A. J. M. wishes to know something about pecans. I have two trees, nearly thirty years old, seventy feet high and forty feet across the limbs, and about one foot in diameter, grown from the seed of the hardy northern pecan. They have been in bearing about twenty years, having never failed to bear a part or full crop. This year we have about one hundred and fifty pounds, or nearly five bushels—thirty-two pounds being counted as a bushel. I planted twenty-seven nuts four years ago; twenty-six of them made trees. I disposed of them to parties near me, and on careful inquiry, all lived but one, and that was from being replanted in an unfavorable place. I do not think, if care is taken, that pecans are hard to raise or transplant. I recommend replanting in the last half of April, care being taken in digging up, as they have a long tap-root and few small roots. Nuts planted now will freeze and burst open, and come up in the spring. If planted where they cannot freeze, the shell must be carefully cracked. If planted over a board or stone six inches below the nut, the tap-root will spread and be much easier taken up, and will be better rooted. The tree is very hardy. They are hard to grow from graft, but it may be done; perhaps two or three in ten will make trees. They will bear some earlier. The Tennessee or Mississippi pecans are larger and the shell thinner, but not so hardy for a northern climate.

F. L.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

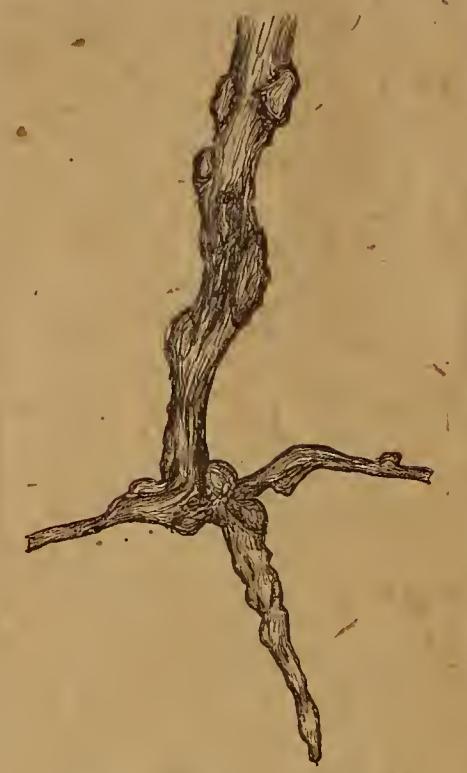
Plum Stock Wanted.—T. M. B. Rolling Prairie, Ind., writes: "Will you please inform me where I can obtain plum stock for budding? I want rooted cuttings of Mariana. Please inform me of a nursery that makes a business of rooting the plum and pear from cuttings; one most northern preferred."

REPLY:—Stark Bros., Louisiana, Missouri, grow the Mariana plum from cuttings in large quantities, and are located as far north as any concern that I now think of which grow their plum stocks in this way. The same concern also grows several oriental pears from cuttings. I do not know of any class of pears but this latter that it is practical to grow in this manner.

ashes on Strawberries—Warfield Strawberry.—E. M., Elizabeth, Minn., writes: "When is the best time to put ashes on strawberries? Is it proper to put them on now, or will the fertility of the ashes be carried away by the melting of the snow? Will ashes, if they become wet or moist, lose any of the potash or any of their fertility?—Is the Warfield strawberry a more profitable variety than the Crescent in Minnesota?"

REPLY:—I prefer to put ashes on in the spring, as the soluble part is liable to be wasted if put on in the winter. The simply getting of ashes wet with water does not seriously injure them, unless the water runs through, but it makes them very bad to handle. If the water runs through them, the potash is wasted badly.—As a rule, I think the Crescent is more universally successful in this state than any other strawberry, but the Warfield is doing exceedingly well in many places. I think you had better try the Bedder Wood on a small scale for a pollinator. It is doing wonderfully well in some parts of your state.

Work of the Woolly-aphis.—J. J. N. Berryville, Ark. The apple roots received were very much shriveled from drying, but resembled the accompanying cut, having little hollow swellings all over them. These swellings were undoubtedly made by the woolly-aphis, which is very destructive to apple-trees in your section, often causing the death of the trees. They are simply little white lice having a woolly covering, which live and increase very rapidly on the roots of trees. They at first sight appear like a mold. All new nursery stock should be inspected, and if any traces of this pest is found the trees should be treated as follows: Dip the roots of the trees into water having a temperature of from 120 to 150 degrees. This is easily done in any hot-water heater, by having a thermometer in the water, and gagging the



WORK OF THE WOOLLY-APHIS.

fire to keep the heat regular. The lice in this way are killed very quickly, and the trees need not remain in the water for more than a minute to do this effectually. Great care should be exercised not to bury even temporarily, or to plant apples in land having this pest in it.

Buffalo-berry—High-bush Cranberry—Nuts.—G. T. H., Waverly, Mo., writes: "What kind of berries are the buffalo-berry, and the high-bush cranberry? Are buffaloberry good fruit to grow for family use? Is the high-bush cranberry like the cranberry sold in stores?—Also please give me the address of a reliable firm that deals in almonds, chestnuts, English walnuts, etc."

REPLY:—The buffalo-berry is a small tree or bush, seldom growing over ten feet high, and found abundantly along the watercourses of the Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming. It is not found wild east of the Dakotas. The plants are pistillate (female) and staminate (male), so that it is necessary to get both kinds of plants in order to have any fruit. The fruit under favorable conditions is produced abundantly, but of course only on the pistillate plants. It is about the size of a red currant, and generally red in color, although occasional plants have yellow fruit. The fruit is very sour, makes a good jelly, but as a sauce it is unpleasant on account of the large seeds which they contain. Each fruit having one seed, which is about the size of a very small grain of wheat. It is my opinion that it will never be popular for table purposes where the red currant does well. The bush, however, is quite pretty and is desirable as a lawn tree. There is, however, quite a difference in the color of the leaves, some plants having leaves that are nearly as white as the old dusty-miller of the gardens, while others have quite dark-colored leaves.—The high-bush cranberry is not like the cranberry sold in the stores. The latter grow in the swamps on a small-leaved vine that lies flat on the ground, while the former makes a bush eight feet high. The high-bush cranberry is almost identical with the common snow-ball of the gardens in leaves and wood, but not in flower. It grows wild over most of the northern United States, and is probably abundant in the woods and thickets in your vicinity. The berries are borne in clusters on the end of the branches, are red in color, and have one flat seed in each. I have never yet seen them successfully cultivated except in a very small way, but I have a lot of seedlings of them with which I am experimenting, hoping to get a good kind that will be productive under cultivation. The berries make a very excellent sauce which is much like ordinary cranberry sauce. It is a very pretty lawn shrub, as the flowers and fruit are both conspicuous and pretty. It is well worth trying in a small way, in sections where the common cranberry is not abundant. It is very hardy.

For years the Standard Woven Wire Fencing has been the Sedgwick make. Write Sedgwick Bros. Co., Richmond, Ind., for particulars, and mention this paper.

"What! Never?" Well, Hardly Ever is so good an opportunity presented for as much enjoyment, for so little outlay, as we extend in our World's Fair offer. See page 19.

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TIMBRELL REID'S ELDORADO STRAWBERRY **BLACKBERRY** **FRUIT TREES, SMALL FRUITS, VINES, ROSES, ORNAMENTALS, CRATES and BASKETS.** NEW FRUITS A SPECIALTY. E. W. REID, Bridgeport, Ohio.



FROM ARKANSAS.—We have good freestone water, supplied by numerous springs and wells. Good water can be obtained by digging or boring ten to seventy feet. Health is generally good here. All fruits adapted to this latitude do exceedingly well here where they receive proper care and cultivation. This is attested by the fine display of fruits at the chamber of commerce in Fort Smith. The fruit industries of this country will improve each year, as horticulturists are getting more experience as to the best methods of fruit culture, and the varieties of fruits best adapted to this soil and climate. Sebastian is principally a timbered county; the upland timber consists of post oak, black and shellbark hickory, white oak, red oak and elm. Timber on bottom lands consists of cottonwood, ash, pecan, black and white gum, soft maple and papaw. A superior quality of coal is found in nearly all parts of the county at a depth of two to fifty feet, which makes a demand for labor in the vicinity of the mines. Western Arkansas was settled principally by people from Tennessee, North Carolina and Georgia. As a rule, they are a very industrious, economical and sociable people, and people coming here from the North to locate who are industrious and otherwise good citizens, are welcomed and respected by their southern neighbors regardless of their attitude in politics. But they have no use for a northern man who will put in the most of his time sitting around the corner grocery, whittling dry-goods boxes and discussing politics and assuming a sort of bulldozing attitude. Our free schools compare favorably with most of the older states. Churches of nearly all denominations are fairly well represented here. As a rule, our people are quiet, law-abiding citizens. This county has very good railroad facilities, but what we are most in need of now for the general good of this county and the people is manufacturing interests, more especially in the agricultural line of implements. Plows and harrows, also other implements, are all shipped here from neighboring states. We have the best of facilities for manufacturing all kinds of implements in Fort Smith. A plant of that kind of manufacturing certainly would pay good dividends on the investment, and would be a great advantage to the country. Prices of improved land range from \$10 to \$25 an acre. Winters are very mild here; I do not think in my residence here of five years that the ground has been frozen to a depth of two inches. At this writing, January 5th, our rose-bushes and other shrubbery hang quite full of green leaves, and our poultry are getting plenty of green forage about the yards.

Bartling, Ark.

H. B.

FROM FLORIDA.—The winters are our dry seasons, but we generally have rain enough. Our market gardeners are shipping egg-plant, beets, lettuce, cabbage, celery, snap-beans, cucumbers, tomatoes and all kinds of vegetables north. We are shipping oranges, lemons, limes, grape-fruit (pomelo), etc. This is the country and climate for cocoanuts, sapodillas, egg-fruit (tess), mammae-apple, guava, bananas, pineapples and all kinds of tropical and semi-tropical fruits. Tamarinds, tropical gooseberry, cherimoyer, melon papaw, sugar-apple, etc., are all fruiting here. I have my opinion of a man who does not relish them. They all come to their greatest perfection in Lee county, Florida. On our poor pine land, cow-penned, I raised three crops in eleven months. Irish potatoes planted January 15th, yielded 220 bushels an acre. I then planted the ground in watermelons and took off a good crop. Then I planted the ground to sweet potatoes, and in December dug 550 bushels per acre. When fertilized, our pine land is the most productive soil to be found, and when one can raise three or four crops a year, he can afford to manure it well. I have known 1,000 bushels of Bermudianions per acre grown here. Our lands are easily cultivated. Rice is sown about June 1st and harvested in October, yielding twenty to eighty bushels per acre, without flooding the field. Our rains during summer supersede the necessity of flooding the rice fields, which is essential in other countries. Florida can support more human life from her own products than any other state in the Union. Lee county has native fertilizers, muck, marl and phosphate, enough to fertilize the state many years. Florida never did, nor never will be known to beg for bread. We have good schools and churches, the best of society, the finest climate in the United States, and the best health in the world.

Fl. Myers, Fla.

L. C. W.

FROM OREGON.—Ours is a hilly country, but we have one of the finest climates the sun shines on. This portion of southern Oregon has been very appropriately termed "the Italy of America." Our little village, containing two hundred inhabitants, is situated in the midst of a rich agricultural, fruit and grazing country, 219 miles south of Portland, at an altitude of 637 feet above the sea, on the line of the Oregon and California railroad. This country is par excellence the country for all kinds of fruit. Our peaches took the first premium at the world's fair. We dried 200,000 pounds of fine prunes this season, and will

ship from here next year fully half a million pounds. A car-load of our prunes will soon be on the road for Dayton, Ohio, so that any one of your readers who are near enough there, can have the pleasure of finding out for themselves whether I am lying or not, when I say that the Myrtle Creek prunes far excel the California product offered in open market. Prunes do not come into bearing until the fifth year from planting. They must be cultivated continuously, as should all kinds of fruit; but corn is raised on same land the first two years. Prunes will yield a net income of from \$75 to as high as \$800 per acre, according to age and cultivation. Good prune land can be had for from \$20 to \$100 per acre, according to location. Soil principally a sandy loam. Timber consists of oak, ash, fir, sugar-pine, cedar and several other woods. Our hills afford excellent pasture for stock of all kinds. Corn does very well here, considering that Oregon is not a corn state. It yields an average of thirty bushels an acre, and has been known to yield sixty. The town of Myrtle Creek has a fine school, three churches and no saloon. It has one of the best flouring mills in the county. There are some rich gold mines near us that are attracting considerable attention just now. Ten miles from here are located the now famous nickel mines, whose exhibit at the world's fair created so much comment. Oregon was a year behind time, and only had a small appropriation for the world's fair exhibit, yet she came out third in the race for awards. Southern Oregon is the cream of the state.

W. T. F.

FROM MICHIGAN.—Our main crops are wheat and hay. Our wheat, if it pulls through the hard winter, averages from fifteen to twenty-five bushels per acre, and sells at present for fifty-four to fifty-six cents per bushel. Hay yields from one and one half to two tons per acre. Our corn crops for the last seven years have been very uncertain, so much so that people are discouraged in trying to raise it. Potatoes do well here, and are raised quite extensively farther north. Apples have been a failure for three or four years. Small fruits do quite well. The long, cold and dismal winters are a great drawback. We commenced to feed stock October 1st, and will have to feed until May 1st.

S. W. C.

Climax, Kalamazoo Co., Mich.

A NEW HORSE POWER.

The attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of the Poindexter Mfg. Co., of Indianapolis, Ind., in this number of the FARM AND FIRESIDE. The chain cable horse powers are built on an entirely new principle. The power is transmitted by a chain belt and can be carried to any point. For instance, a corn splitter or cutting box can be set in a barn loft and the power in the barn yard, 200 or 300 feet from cutting box if necessary. The power has but one set of cog gearing and is devoid of dead centers and is easy to start. For such work as running feed cutters, corn splitters, corn shellers, bone cutters, fanning mills and churning and pumping water, etc., this is perhaps the most convenient power on the market, and is worthy of investigation by persons in need of a light power. The Corn Splitting machines are in use by hundreds of feeders, who unhesitatingly recommend their use. A postal card written to the manufacturers will secure for any of our readers a full description of both powers and corn splitters and Lion Fodder Cutters and Crushers, as well as some points on the value of splitting corn for feed. When writing mention the FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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The United States Government Artist secured a magnificent series of photographs of the World's Fair, which will be preserved in the Smithsonian Institute, at Washington, for posterity. It is shrewd and proper that the Greatest of Modern Enterprises, now passing into history, should have its best and highest features preserved. You should be just as shrewd and also possess a Panorama of the Great Exposition. We furnish it free, as stated on page 19.

FOR SALE. A large, fine young orchard of all the varieties of orchard fruits. Also some small fruits. Gross sales for two years past, \$30,000. Terms most favorable. Address Box 750, New Britian, Conn.

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ship from here next year fully half a million pounds. A car-load of our prunes will soon be on the road for Dayton, Ohio, so that any one of your readers who are near enough there, can have the pleasure of finding out for themselves whether I am lying or not, when I say that the Myrtle Creek prunes far excel the California product offered in open market. Prunes do not come into bearing until the fifth year from planting. They must be cultivated continuously, as should all kinds of fruit; but corn is raised on same land the first two years. Prunes will yield a net income of from \$75 to as high as \$800 per acre, according to age and cultivation. Good prune land can be had for from \$20 to \$100 per acre, according to location. Soil principally a sandy loam. Timber consists of oak, ash, fir, sugar-pine, cedar and several other woods. Our hills afford excellent pasture for stock of all kinds. Corn does very well here, considering that Oregon is not a corn state. It yields an average of thirty bushels an acre, and has been known to yield sixty. The town of Myrtle Creek has a fine school, three churches and no saloon. It has one of the best flouring mills in the county. There are some rich gold mines near us that are attracting considerable attention just now. Ten miles from here are located the now famous nickel mines, whose exhibit at the world's fair created so much comment. Oregon was a year behind time, and only had a small appropriation for the world's fair exhibit, yet she came out third in the race for awards. Southern Oregon is the cream of the state.

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Flowers large, perfectly double and fragrant, and of the purest snow white. Grown from seed, it will bloom all summer in the garden, and if taken up and placed in the window in the fall, will continue to bloom the entire winter and spring. One of the most beautiful of flowers is this snowy-white Pink. Regular price, 25c.; but to introduce our Northern grown seeds into the home of every one of the readers of this paper, we will send a pkt., post-paid, for 10c. silver, or 12c. stamps, and include our

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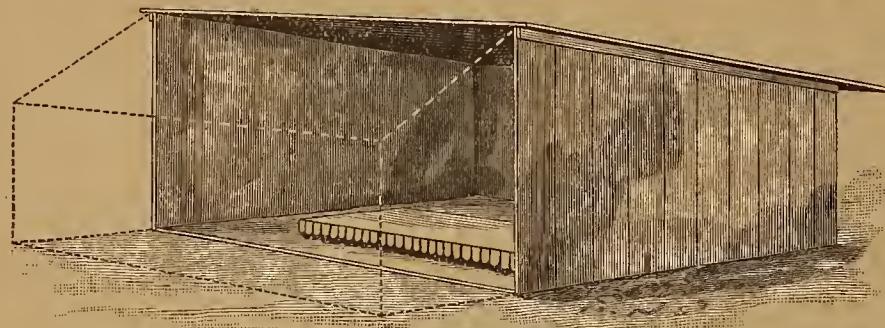
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BROODER-HOUSE FOR ONE BROOD:

A BROODER-HOUSE for one hundred chicks may be constructed at a small cost, the illustration (front view) showing where to place the brooder, although it may be placed nearer the rear wall if desired, leaving six inches of space between the wall and the brooder, so as to permit the chicks to come from under the brooder at all sides. Any kind of brooder that is intended for one hundred chicks will answer, the object being to illustrate the brooder-house rather than the brooder. The brooders made at present usually have a piece of cloth, cut into hanging strips two or three inches wide, which hang down on the sides of the brooder. The brooder-house should be ten feet square, seven feet high in front and five feet high at the rear, tarred paper roof, the building to be of upright boards, lined inside with heavy paper, so as to have the building warm. The dotted lines, seen at the end view and on the front view, are intended to show that a curtain made



BROODER-HOUSE FOR ONE BROOD.

of heavy muslin may be arranged at the front, to guard against storms and winds, or it may be of glass. Glass is better, but muslin is cheaper, and may be arranged so as to roll up in favorable weather. In very cold climates the muslin will not answer, however. The position of the brooder is also shown. The design of the brooder-house is of a cheap one, and for those who have a small incubator, which requires but one brooder. We will be pleased to have readers improve on this design, and send us their plans.

FEEDING YOUNG DUCKS.

Ducklings will eat twice as much as chicks, but they will also eat almost anything that is given them. Though apparently voracious, they also grow twice as fast as chickens, and do not cost any more per pound than chickens, as a duckling will weigh four pounds when nine weeks old if of the Pekin breed. Cooked turnips, beets, carrots or potatoes, thickened with bran, make an excellent mess for them. Feed them four times a day, giving all that they will eat, and you can almost see them grow.

THE DUST BATH.

It is absolutely necessary to have a dust bath for the hens in the winter. The dust bath is the toilet of the hen. She cleans her body by its use, and keeps lice away. If you did not follow our advice and lay in a supply of dry dirt for winter use, then you will find coal ashes the best substitute, but they must be sifted twice, so as to remove all of the coarse portions, and have that intended for use as fine as dust.

An enterprising orchardist, with a few thousand dollars to invest, would do well to consult advertisement headed "For Sale."

POULTRY PACKING-HOUSES.

It is reported that Armour & Co., in Kansas City, have begun the packing of poultry in large numbers for the trade. They will no doubt create a market in that section for all the poultry that can be produced, and there is no use in denying the fact that benefit will result to many, as the poultry will be shipped to the East. No fear need be entertained of any monopoly in that direction, however, as the hen, unlike the cow, multiplies her kind very rapidly, and the incubator comes to her assistance. Packed poultry will never be able to compete with the near-by product, and the number of persons who raise poultry is too large, and the facilities for producing fowls are too easily within the reach of all, to permit of great fluctuation in prices. The packing-houses offer opportunities to many western farmers to sell to better advantage, however, and save expense in dressing and shipping to market. In the meantime we predict a demand equal to the supply.

BUYING EGGS OF PURE BREEDS.

Order your eggs early, so as to avoid delay. Remember that the breeder may have no eggs when you write him, and must wait for his hens to lay them. He will always fill the orders that reach him first

ter is as cheap as paper, and much cleaner. In building your hen-house, take scantling 2x6 inches for your foundation the size you want your house, stand them edge up and spike them together at the corners, and you have the bottom of your house. Now take 2x4 scantling and make them the size of the bottom, and spike them together for the top. Take boards the length you want the height of the house and nail them on all around, except where you want your door and windows. Cover with boards and shingles; then put in the door and windows, lath so it will go around the house and across the cracks; then plaster it all over inside, and you will have a nice place for your hens. For roosts I use 2x4 scantling, and have a wire fastening to the end of a 2x4 piece that will be a little short of the width of your house. Have a hook in the plate as a top piece, so that your 2x4 scantling will swing about one foot from the floor. Have two of these, and hang them so they can be taken down easily; take some 2x4 pieces, round one edge of them for roosts, fasten them in pairs, then lay them on the pieces that swing. When you want to clean your hen-house, move the roosts all out, and you have clear work, and it can be done in a few minutes. I have used one for three years, and like it very much.

C. T. Byron, Mich.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Double-yolk Eggs.—T. E. B., Brooklyn Village, Ohio, writes: "Some of my hens lay double-yolk eggs and some lay eggs with no shells, although they have lime, bone and oyster-shells always within reach. What is the cause?"

REPLY:—The hens have been overfed and are too fat, being out of condition for laying.

Geese.—J. F. G., Franklin, Pa., writes: "Is there any farm known where geese are kept in large numbers and made a special business?"

REPLY:—We know of no such farm. In the sparsely settled sections of West Virginia, away from railroads, geese are raised extensively—allowed to forage, and the feathers are the principal object.

Loss of Flesh.—Mrs. B. H., Lakeview, Oregon, writes: "My hens lose flesh, and so continue for a long time, finally dying. Appetite is good, and sometimes two or three months occur before they show signs of the disease."

REPLY:—It is probably due to the large, gray lice on the skin of the heads and necks. Anoint three times a week with sweet-oil, rubbing it in well.

Vertigo in Ducks.—E. W., Lowellville, Ohio, writes: "I have a drake which staggers, falls on his back and so remains. Last fall he did the same thing. He is old, and is fed mostly on corn and bran-mash."

REPLY:—It is probably vertigo, due to excessive feeding on food that is too stimulating. Remove him from the flock and feed only once a day for ten days, allowing only one ounce of lean meat daily.

Roup in Turkeys.—Mrs. A. F., Clarion, Iowa, writes: "What is best to be done for roup in turkeys? Their heads swell, and they become blind."

REPLY:—It is caused by exposure. Put them in a warm place, sponge the faces with warm salt and water, wipe dry and anoint heads and faces once a day with a mixture of one part spirits turpentine and four parts sweet-oil. Add a teaspoonful of chloride of potash to each quart of the drinking-water. The difficulty is not easily cured.

SHELTER AND FOOD.

The greater share of the food consumed in winter is used for the maintenance of the body, and the heat that prevents the hen from freezing is formed from the food which is consumed. The more warmth that is saved the less food required for her support. It is plain, therefore, that if the hen has good, warm quarters, she will utilize less food for support and be better enabled to produce eggs. Shelter economizes by saving food.

HATCH PULETS EARLY.

The pullets of the large breeds should be hatched before the first of April, and if by the middle of March, it will be all the better, as they will then have plenty of time to grow before fall. Eggs of the small breeds need not be used until later, as such pullets require a much shorter period for reaching maturity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LATH AND PLASTER is Best.—I see by the FARM AND FIRESIDE a great many ways of taking care of the chickens. Now, for a place for them to roost in, they should not have any location where the mites can breed and hide away, which they can do when paper is used for lining to the house. I use lath and plaster in the roosting-room. It is smooth, and can be whitewashed with ease. The lath and plas-

ter is as cheap as paper, and much cleaner. In building your hen-house, take scantling 2x6 inches for your foundation the size you want your house, stand them edge up and spike them together at the corners, and you have the bottom of your house. Now take 2x4 scantling and make them the size of the bottom, and spike them together for the top. Take boards the length you want the height of the house and nail them on all around, except where you want your door and windows. Cover with boards and shingles; then put in the door and windows, lath so it will go around the house and across the cracks; then plaster it all over inside, and you will have a nice place for your hens. For roosts I use 2x4 scantling, and have a wire fastening to the end of a 2x4 piece that will be a little short of the width of your house. Have a hook in the plate as a top piece, so that your 2x4 scantling will swing about one foot from the floor. Have two of these, and hang them so they can be taken down easily; take some 2x4 pieces, round one edge of them for roosts, fasten them in pairs, then lay them on the pieces that swing. When you want to clean your hen-house, move the roosts all out, and you have clear work, and it can be done in a few minutes. I have used one for three years, and like it very much.

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SOOY'S "SIXTH."

BY LOU V. CHAPIN.

ILLUSTRATED BY WILL E. CHAPIN.

CHAPTER III.

THANK you, Mr. Sooy, I'm enjoyin' good health. Wou't you come home with us?" He signified his assent with a languishing look, and Mrs. Roberts called out to a buxom, rosy-cheeked girl, who stood in conversation with a bashful youth, upon whose cheek the down, untouched as yet by razor, was like the silk on the young corn.

"Mary, come on, we are ready to go." Mary was Mrs. Roberts' help, but she would have scorned the name of hired girl, and would have waxed indignant had any one dared to call her a servant.

"I'm ready wheneva you are," she replied. "Come, Ike, an' take dinner with us."

The party was about to proceed to the farm-wagon, which stood near, drawn by two strong horses known as "Widder Roberts' blacks." Ham was mentally estimating their value as he looked upon them with the eye of an owner, when a quiet-looking man of about forty turned from a group where he had been in conversation, and bowed politely to the widow.

Every community boasts of its human oddity. Weak-minded, weak-bodied or malformed persons are apt to enjoy more public respect than one who deliberately and through no fault of nature varies from the moral or mental standard. A naturalist, philosopher or scientist of any sort, in many rural communities like this of Egypt, is considered a "crank" of the first water, and a novelist could hardly there become a member of ordinary society, were his predilection to fiction known.

Ephraim Dollin, or Eph Dollin, as he was known to the Egyptians, was the "queer" member of the community, according to the local phraseology. When he was a young man, he had loved Alice Hartley with true devotion, and when he went to California to seek his fortune, as many a man did in his day, he left his betrothed, the pretty Alice, to the charge of his best friend, a young farmer with whom he had grown up, with directions that he should take care that she did not pine in his absence. The friend performed his part of the contract so literally that when Eph came back from the gold-fields little richer than when he left Egypt, except for the experience of five years of rough life, he found Alice the wife of his friend, and the mother of two little daughters. Her husband died soon after Eph's return, leaving his widow and children wholly unprovided for. Eph sold the estate that his father, who died in his absence, had left him, and before he went away to fight for his country, made the money over to Alice's daughters. He had reserved a few acres for himself, and after the war was over, settled down upon them with his maiden sister for his housekeeper. Alice died when her eldest daughter was fourteen years old, and thereafter Eph took the two children home to his own house, and reared them as carefully as though he were their father. They were both married now.

Yes, Eph was "queer." Besides his "softness," as evinced in his dealings with the faithless Alice, he "wuz alus buggin' rou' an' carryin' home insects an' things in his pockets," a pursuit considered frivolous and unsuited "fer a grown man." While his neighbors did not think that he was exactly "touched," they had little patience with his dad. He was not a talker, except to children whom he met in his solitary walks, and to them he would discourse by the hour upon the obscure and interesting life going on all about them in the leaves and grass. The children loved him staunchly, and always championed him when their elders disparaged him and his pursuits; but Eph was not a favorite with the adult population. He never frequented "the basket meetin's" or other rural festivities, and seldom appeared at church. He spent all of his spare cash in books. "Ez though books could put money into his pockets, er could increase an' multiply like cattle uow, er pigs," Ham had once said with supreme contempt when speaking of his odd neighbor.

In his later years Eph had a romance that was sweeter to his unspoiled heart than the old dream from which the awakening had been so rude. Jennie Sooy was fond of Eph, and from her childhood had given him the respect that she found it impossible to yield her father. It was Eph who had formed the taste which she had developed for books, and the "Scottish Chiefs," her dearest childish treasure, was his gift. She had passed many happy hours in his little brown cottage, among his books, while his sweet-faced

maiden sister sat by sewing or reading. It was not, however, for Jennie that Eph's autumn romance blossomed. Once when Jennie was scarcely more than fifteen years old, she had said to him:

"If I was only older, I'd run away from home, an' go out in the world to seek my fortune."

"Oh, no, Jennie," Eph had replied. "The world is a rough place for a young girl. You should be sheltered and protected. You will fall in love one of these days and marry."

"Eph," Jennie had replied quite seriously, "when I grow up I wish you'd marry me. I like you better than any one else, for you are so gentle, and never talk to me 'bout my foolish mother."

"I shall never marry, little girl," Eph answered, "unless the one woman that I love will have me, and I'm afraid I shall never pluck up courage to ask her. She is near my own age, and looks as you will, you sweet, wild rose, when you are forty."

Jennie knew whom he meant, but kept the secret and pondered much how she might aid shy Eph in his wooing. Now the very idea that her much-married father should turn his covetous eyes upon what Jennie considered Eph's property, for it was Mrs. Roberts whom he adored, filled her with indignation and alarm.

with women. But I'll make the attempt, at any rate."

Soon, with Mary's lover on the front seat hauling the lines, they were driven toward Mrs. Roberts' house. On the way Ham had the lion's share of the conversation. He talked to the widow and at Eph, meaning to daunt the one and to convince the other. His colloquial powers were employed mainly in the description of how well his crops looked, and how much money he thought they would bring, how many steers he was feeding, and the price of hogs, how much grain he had held for a high market, and how much more clever he was in all financial matters than any other man in the township.

While Mary prepared the dinner, Ham and Eph sat on Mrs. Roberts' front porch, and between them in a low rocking-chair sat the widow, her plump hands folded in her lap, and her rosy face and waving hair set off to the best advantage by the black dress she still wore for him whose relic she was, though he had been dead seven years. Ham strove to be entertaining. He never once referred to his deceased wives, but kept up a conversation of unexampled fluency for him, interrupting whenever he thought Eph was about to hazard an observation, and when he by chance had an opportunity to do so, paying

put out—that you're stayin' so long. Course, I don't min' it myself—any other time would do—jes' as well for me—but the widder now—"

Just then Mrs. Roberts returned and seated herself as before. Eph scanned her face. Yes, there was ever so slight a cloud upon it. His resolution melted away.

"Good-night, Mrs. Roberts," he said, "I must really go, for sister Sarah will be anxious."

"Must you, really," replied the widow with a heartiness that made Eph's spirit sink.

"Yes, I must, good-evening."

Ham watched Eph as he went out of the gate and across the fields. He smiled as he did so, and thought:

"He's acsually struck ou her, an' I ain't a minute too soon."

He moved a little nearer the widow, and began to talk in a low, coaxing tone. Neither heard a footfall on the floor of the living-room. Jennie had come to the Roberts house with a message for Mary from her sister Mat, and not finding that young woman, had entered the house, whose doors were wide open, intending to give the message to Mrs. Roberts and depart. The sight of her father sitting very near the widow, holding her hand and looking down into her face, arrested her. She shrank behind the door, smiling to herself, her mind more taken up with the idea

of hearing what was being said than with the notion that it was wrong for her to play the eavesdropper. Poor, untaught Jen had some ideas of honor, but in the present instance the ludicrousness of her father's look and attitude overcame all scruples, and she settled herself down on the floor behind the door, peering through the crack above its hinges, watching what was transpiring on the little porch, with the same enjoyment as though she were witnessing a play. She heard her father, with many endearing words, offer his hand and heart to Mrs. Roberts, and noted the cleverness with which he put down every objection that the widow urged against the match.

"What'll Mat say?" asked the widow, "an' how'll Ellie treat me? Of course, I know that Jen is the kindest-hearted, dearest little thing in the world, an' she'll be jus' like a daughter to me, but I'm afraid of Mat an' Gabe an' Ellie."

"Oh, I'll manage them all right," replied Ham tenderly. "Don't you worry. I won't tell—them a thin' bout it—till we're jined—then ef they make a fuss—I'll pack 'em all off, an' we'll have things to ourselves."

"But my George," pleaded the widow, "I want him to see me married."

"Never min', never min'. He kin see you afterward."

Then followed some tender endearment by the practiced and well-seasoned Ham that amazed Jennie.

"I declare," she said under her breath. "Dad comes out strong. Hear him now, sayin' poetry to the widow. I didn't know he'd ever learned any poetry, but perhaps he only uses it on such occasions. Tellin' her, too, that she's the sweetest thing the sun ever shone on, an' that he never loved anybody till he loved her. I wonder if Solomon didn't tell his three-hundredth wife that when he courted her, jus' as I'm sure he did the firs', an' every other one of 'em. An' kissin' her, too. I've never kissed dad since I can remember, an' I think it would give me the heartburn to do it now. You ol' rascal," she apostrophized in a soft whisper, shaking her fist at him through the crack above the hinges, "there ain't no sense nor reason in your takin' that poor bamboozled woman, who'd be tired of you in a week, an' go distracted in our family, an' cry her eyes out to think she wuz such a fool as to marry you. She don't love you a mite, an' you don't love her. You're only thinkin'

of her farm an' her black horses. There's Eph, now, that's more of a man in a minute than you are in a week, if you are my dad. He's had one disappointment, an' he sha'n't have another if I can help it. What's that you're sayin'?" she continued, mentally taking note. "You've told the preacher to come over here Tuesday night. I think that was peart in you, dad. 'Pon my soul I do, when you'd not even asked her then if she'd have you. Want to hurry up before she comes to her senses. Ah! I have it. I'll spoil your plan if I die for it."

As Ham was taking a tender farewell of his betrothed, Jennie stole softly from her hiding-place and out of the back door. Making a short cut through the woods, she was at home when her father arrived, and was sitting on the door-step, pensively watching the moon. Ham gruffly ordered her to bed, then retired to the depths of the four-poster to dream of the widow and her black horses.

Jennie slipped softly into the shed-room, her face dimpling with smiles in the darkness.

"Mat," she called in a whisper, "don't wake Ellie, but come out by the well; I want to talk to you."

"What is it, Jen?" replied her sister peevishly. "I am tired an' worried out of my seven senses. I can't sleep now, so don't tell me any of your nonsense."

"Do come, Mat," Jennie urged. "It's 'bout



"CAIN'T WE DO NOTHIN', JEN?"

As Eph bowed to Mrs. Roberts, that good lady, moved by a sudden impulse, beamed upon him. She thought swiftly that Ham Sooy might have thought she was angling for him when she invited him to dine with her, and though she knew perfectly what his intentions were regarding her, woman-like, she would not aid him, and would even put hindrances in his way, to give zest to his wooing. She had a reverent respect for Eph, and never "made fun" of him as did many of the other ladies of her acquaintance, but she knew that he was not a "marrying man," and could therefore act with perfect freedom toward him.

"How do you do, Eph, how is Sarah?" she said. "Come home to dinner with me like a friendly neighbor, an' tell me how you all are."

This was unlooked-for good fortune, but perhaps Eph would have lacked the courage to accept the cordial invitation had he not chanced to see the calculating look upon Mr. Sooy's face. He interpreted it aright.

"Oh, ho!" said Eph to himself. "You've got your eye on her property, you red-headed Bluebeard. I will go to dinner with her, and I'll stay afterwards until you are gone, and then I'll put my fate to the touch. It would be a sacrifice for her to take you, you smooth-faced hypocrite, and to protect her I'll offer myself, though I'm afraid there isn't much show for me beside a man of your experience

no sort of attention to it, but proceeding as though he had not heard it. At last Eph subsided entirely, and watched Ham with the same sort of interest he sometimes gave to a strange and not altogether pleasant insect.

In the course of the afternoon Ham asserted that Mat was about to leave him to seek the shelter of the roof of a maiden aunt in Indiana, though truth compels us to relate that Mat had not the remotest intention of so doing, for the reputation of that good lady as to temper was not all that could be desired; but Ham had come to the decision that he would send her thither, should her objections to the proposed match be too great for family peace. He also informed the widow that Ellie was about to "go to Newbrasky to keep house fer my brother John, a widower, you know, like myself."

The afternoon waned. Mary did the milking, then strolled away with her bashful lover. The evening approached; still Ham sat with the widow and Eph, talking in his monotonous, ejaculatory way. Eph began to feel anxious, for it dawned upon him at last that Ham had determined to tire him out. He thought, too, that he detected faint traces of annoyance on the face of the widow. In a temporary absence of that personage, Sooy turned to Dolling and said:

See here, Eph—me an' the widder—has got a little—business to git through—this evenin'—an' I shouldn't wonder—if she wuz a little bit

pap an' the widow. I've been down there. Oh, if you'd a seen whnt I have, yon'd laugh for a week," and Jennie stifled a ripple of mirth. "Come 'long. Dad's asleep before this, an' thbere ain't none of the others awake."

Mat slipped on her clothes and went out to the well, where Jennie awaited her. Jennie detailed with smothered laughter the conversation between Ham and the widow, embracing Mat at the tender portions to give force to her narrative, and enacting both her sire and the shy widow to perfection. Mat heard with growing despair, and when Jennie concluded with the information that the wedding was set for Tuesday night, her consternation was complete.

"Cain't we do nothin', Jen, nothin' in the worl' to stop it? The idea of packin' me off to Annt Sooy, after all the years I've slaved an' toiled for this family, an' sendin' Ellie out to Newbrasky to Uncle John. Aunt Sooy is the stingiest, crossest ol' woman that wuz ever born, au' I'd rather die than go an' live with her. Dad ain't got no feelin' tall, er he'd remember how Ellie an' me has stood by him, an' worked like horses, an' never galvanized 'ronnd. I just won't make room fer another mam; an' ef they take me to Indiana, I'll be tied han' an' foot, fer I swan I won't stir a step to go. Cain't we do nothin'?"

"See here, Mat, I've thought of a plan," replied Jennie, and sitting down by her sister on the platform surrounding the well-curb, she detailed a scheme that had taken shape in her mind.

Mat listened intently, and when Jennie had finished, she drew a long sigh of satisfaction. "I think you can do it, Jen; I'm sure you can, but you'll have to have money. How much will it take, now?"

"At least twenty dollars."

Twenty dollars. Just the sum that hard-working Mat had saved without her father's knowledge, from the proceeds of the sales of eggs and butter, over and above what had been required as a medium of barter for sugar, coffee and molasses. She had intended purchasing herewith a summer gown and bonnet, a pair of shoes and a parasol, but all these splendors were not to be hers, if Jen was to be allowed to carry out her plan.

"I'll give it to you, Jen, though it's every cent I've got in the worl', an' it's took a year to save it. I've always wanted a parasol, but I guess I can do without it a little longer, sence I've done without it this long. Anythin's better than havin' a sixth comin' here to upset everythig, an' me packed off to starve at Annt Sooy's. I'll give it to you the firs' thing in the mornin', an' you can git the things when you ride in to town to git me the onion-sets fer the garden. I'll call you bright an' early; so now less go to bed."

When Jennie came back from the town the next day, she carried a band-box, which she hid in a thicket just below the orchard, and did not bring to the house until all the family save Mat were asleep. Then she displayed to her sister conspirator a mournful bonnet and veil, the exact shape, size and pattern of those worn by the Widow Roberts. Jennie was the owner of a black dress that was nearly new, and this was also brought forth, sundry ruffles and frurbelows ripped from it, and then Jennie put it and the new bonnet and veil on to try the effect. With the veil demurely lowered as was the widow's wont when she went abroad, Jennie stood before Mat, and turned anxiously about. In height, plumpness and general effect, she so exactly resembled the widow in her mourning-robcs that her best friends would not have known the difference. Mat was exultant.

"It's the widow herself, Jen; her own son wouldn't know her."

The next morning early the Widow Roberts drove away from home, and Jennie hastened down to see Mary, who had apprised her the day before of the widow's intention to drive on Tuesday to Johnsville, some twelve miles away, and that she did not expect to return until near sunset. This was Jennie's opportunity. She detailed to Mary her plan, and that damscl heartily concurred and aided. Together they composed a note, and Jennie copied it in a hand as near as possible like that of the widow, as shown by some papers Mary extracted from her desk as a model. The note read thus:

DEAR HAMILTON:—I want so much that my son George should see me married, and have taken the morning train for Chicago. I will stop off at — (and she named a town some twenty miles from the city), and will meet you there to-morrow morning. If you take the three o'clock train, you will meet me. I have taken this plan in order that none of our friends should have an idea that we are going away to be married, and they would be sure to suspect it if we went together. I shall expect to meet you to-morrow morning. Ever thine, CLARA.

"Dad," said Jennie, with a serious face, as she handed him the letter an hour later, "Miss' Roberts has gone to Johnsville, an' ain't goin' to be home for several days. Mary said she left this note, with orders that you wuz to have it right away. I wonder whut Miss' Roberts wants to write to you about."

Ham took the note without remark, and put it in his pocket.

"Mat," continued Jennie, "if you've got that basket of carpet-rags ready for Miss' Smith, I'll carry 'em over. I won't be back till late, for I want Josie Smith to show me

that new tidy stitch, and it's a good three-mile walk there."

Mat handed Jennie a carefully covered basket, and Jennie sauntered away. Once out of sight of the house, she sped toward Eph's cottage, leaving her basket, which contained the black dress and new bonnet and veil, she advanced toward Eph, who sat reading in the shade.

Flushed and panting, she stood before him, and Eph's surprise at her appearance was deepened when she said hurriedly:

"Eph, I want to tell you something, but you mustn't tell dad I told you, leastwise till I give you leave."

"Sit down, Jennie," said Eph kindly.

"I ain't got time to set down. Dad's goin' to Chicago to get married, has started maybe already. He means to jilt the Widow Roberts, because he has a notion that she wuz a little too pleasant to you Sunday. Everything is ready for him an' the widow to be married to-night, the minister asked an' all. If you really love her, now's your chance. You go over there, as if you'd jus' happened in, an' when dad don't come, for he won't, you jus' save her from feelin' that she's been deserted. You marry her, an' spoil dad's mean revenge."

"Jennie, what do you mean? Can this be true?" cried Eph.

"It can, an' it is, an' ef you're wise, you'll do as I say. But I mus' be goin' before dad fin's out I've been over here. He'd kill me if he knew I had told you."

Jennie was off like a flash, and catching up her basket turned into the woods. She stopped in a secluded nook, and when she came forth, to all intents and purposes she was Mrs. Roberts, for she had doffed her ordinary clothes, and hidden them and the basket safely away, and had dressed herself as the plump and demure widow was wont to be arrayed.

She reached the depot of the little town about five minutes before the noon train came in, and bought a ticket for the town named in her note to her father, as the place where Mrs. Roberts was to meet him the next morning. She did not raise her veil, and murmured a "good-morning" to the ticket agent, who politely addressed her as Mrs. Roberts.

Four hours later, as Ham Sooy, in his Sunday clothes, boarded the northward-bound train, he saw Eph Dolling entering the conney clerk's office opposite the depot. Eph had been hanging about the platform for half an hour, and had addressed Ham, who was sauntering back and forth, waiting for the train, but Ham had seemed unwillingly reticent.

He followed Ham to the ticket window, and looked on while he bought a ticket for Chicago. Eph was convinced that Jennie had told him the truth, but he would question Ham.

"Going to Chicago, Ham?"

"Yes," drawled the worthy. "I'm goin' on a little ja'nt."

"Going to sell your wheat?"

"Naw, I ain't goin'—to sell my wheat. I'm goin' on a pleasure trip. Fac' is," and Ham lowered his voice, "I'm goin' on mighty peculiar bnsiness. I don't min' tellin' you, I'm goin' to git a pardner," and he gave Eph a nudge. "Goin' to get jined."

Just then the train whistled, and Ham said no more.

Eph left him, and went directly to the clerk's office.

"Mary," he said, "call Mrs. Roberts out; I have some very painful news for her."

As Mrs. Roberts came into the room, she trembled very much, and the more so as Eph took her hand, and looked pityingly into her eyes.

"What is it, Eph?" she faltered. "You are my good friend, I know. What is it that you have to tell me? Painful news, Mary said."

Eph grew bold as the widow's distress increased. He took her other hand, and drew her very close to him.

"Clara," he said, "promise me that you will hold no grudge against me as the bearer of ill tidings."

"What is it?" she gasped.

"You were to have been married to-night to Hamilton Sooy. Jennie came over this morning and told me all about it. She told me, too, that her father meant to take a low and

him to lead her before the somewhat impatient Brother Williamson, who pronounced the words that made them man and wife.

Ham Sooy rode on, and his mind kept time to the rattle of the train, as he figured out what the widow's farm was worth, what the blacks would bring, and the probable amount of her cash in the bank. The Inxny of a berth in the sleeping-car was not to be thought of, Ham concluded, and as the darkness grew deeper and the hour later, he curled himself up, on the seat, and snored peacefully until the daylight was breaking. He awoke stiff and tired, cross and disheveled, to find that the station that the widow had mentioned was the next stopping-place. He took a few turns up and down the car, smoothing his rumpled hair, and settling his clothing, so as to be presentable to the widow. He saw her standing on the platform as the train stopped at the station, and alighted to assist her into the car. Apparently she did not see him, for she walked to the other end of the coach, and the train was already in motion, when he again embarked, and eagerly set off down the aisle to meet her. He drew her into the seat beside him, and put his arm about her, regardless of the curious looks that his fellow-passengers cast upon him.

"Miss' Roberts," he said tenderly, "I'm so glad that you made this plan. We'll git a license, an' be married as soon as we git into the city, then we'll go about an' see the sights fer a weddin' tower."

Jennie said not a word, and Ham continued:

"Come, don't be shy now—spunk up, an' put back that veil, an' let—me look ou that—pretty face that it seems—a year sence, I've seen."

Slowly the veil was raised, and Ham almost fainted with astonishment when, instead of the widow's placid features, the roguish face of his daughter Jennie, looking ten-fold the more roguish under the demure widow's bonnet, met his gaze.

"Jen!" he gasped. Then he seized her roughly by the arm. "Tell me the meanin' of this foolery, you huzzy," he cried in a fierce whisper, "or I'll kill you," and he swore beneath his breath, some sulphurous oaths that would have astonished the good Egyptians, but Jennie had seen and heard him in rage before, and was not at all surprised.

"Now, see here, dad," Jennie said coolly, "you jus' let go my arm, an' quiet right down, for if you don't, I'll call the conductor."

"Call him ef you want to, an' I'll tell him that you're my daughter, an' what a tric you've done."

"If you do," replied the unmoved Jennie, "I'll vow you're crazy, an' that I never seen you before in my life. He knows I've jus' got on the train, an' that you wuz on all night. Make any kin' of fuss, an' you'll be arrested an' locked up as a crazy man."

Ham subsided and glared at Jennie for a few minutes. Then he said:

"Tell me what this means, an' why you're dressed up that way?"

"Well," said Jennie coolly, "now that you ask the question more civil, I don't min' tellin'. You meant to take Miss' Roberts for your sixth, an' I knew she didn't care for you a mite, nor you for her. I knew, too, that you'd make her miserable, an' she's a good woman, though a little weak an' easy persnaded. I heard you Sunday night tellin' them lies to her, 'bout bein' the only woman you'd ever loved, an' all that, au' as I know somebody that really does love her, an' has for years, I fixed up this dress an' hid it. Then I wrote you the note, an' after I'd give it to you, I went to Eph (he's the person that really loves Miss' Roberts) an' tol' him that you meant to jilt her and marry another woman, an' that to spoil your fun, he'd better marry her himself. Shouldn't wonder," Jennie continued, enjoying her father's speechless and impotent wrath with a fearful kind of pleasure, "shouldn't wonder a bit if they were married las' night. Think it more'n likely. Come, dad," she said coaxingly, laying her hand on his arm. "You mus' make the bes' of it. Show me the sights in the city, an' we'll go back together, an' I'll never let on what a joke I've played on you, but if you don't, you'll never hear the last of it."

Ham brooded a few minutes. Finally he said:

"Where did you get the money to buy the things an' your ticket?"

"Oh, I saved it up," replied Jen with cheerful maledicity.

"How much did you save up?"

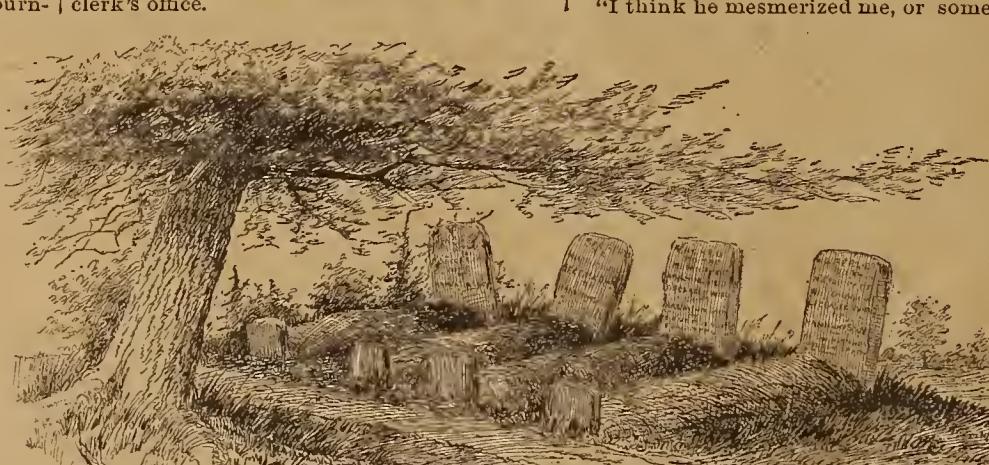
"Twenty dollars."

"Twenty dollars—hum—how much have you got left?"

"About two dollars."

"Hum. Well, miss, you've give me—an idea. I don't know you—never seen you in my life—you can have my seat—an' ef you say—I'm your pap—or ask me fer money—to get back home—I'll have you 'rested—an' locked up—as crazy."

Jennie turned pale. Here was an unlooked-for difficulty. She said nothing, however, as her father, with grim determination expressed in every line of his face, sought another car. Soon the train arrived at the depot in the city. Jennie was frightened and distressed when her father disappeared in the crowd and she was left alone. She had not counted on his revenge, and did not at first know what to do. She knew only one person in the city, the widow's son. She would go to him for advice. She knew his address, and by dint of questioning the depot policeman, learned how to reach it.



"SACRED TO THE MEM'RY OF THE 'DISEASED' WIFE OF HAMILTON SOOY."

"He's goin' to pay his taxes," said Ham to himself, but not so.

Ephraim Dolling sought and received a document, which authorized him, in the name of the great commonwealth of Illinois, to marry Clara Roberts, relict of John Roberts, deceased.

Widow Roberts was pensivethat evening, and when Brother Williamson alighted from his white horse at her gate a little after supper, was visibly nervous. Her nervousness increased when Ephraim Dolling strolled up the path to the front door a few minutes later, and though she invited him cordially to join her and the preacher, where they sat in the best room, he saw she was ill at ease. The twilight wore away, and the lamps were lit. The widow cast frequent and anxious glances at the clock, and when eight chimed, her hands were trembling in her lap.

Nine o'clock struck at last, and those who sat together in the widow's best room were constrained and silent. Then Eph arose and went into the kitchen.

moaned the widow, "an' hurried matters up for fear I'd come to an' refuse to have him. I hope with all my heart that he is gone, for I wouldn't marry him now, since you've told me what my life would be in that family, an' since such a man as you loves me, if he wuz to put me in jail if I didn't. To think, Eph, that you've been lovin' me for five years, an' me so sorry for your lonesome state, an' thinkin' that it was such a pity that you were so taken up with your books an' bugs that you wouldn't marry anybody."

Thus they talked, until Mary came back with the information that Mat had declared that her father "had gone to Chicago to bring home a wife (he wouldn't tell who), an' that the poor girl was that put out that she wuz nearly crazy."

The widow looked shyly at Eph.

"To think," she cried, "that I should have had a notion of bein' Sooy's sixth. Why, I'm that ashamed that I can hardly look you in the face."

She did, though, a little later, and allowed

George was deep in a column of figures, when a shadow darkened his page. He looked up, and with the cry, "Mother!" clasped Jennie in his arms. The office in which he was employed was a large and busy one, and the clerks looked on in curiosity, as the black-robed woman hid her face on George's shoulder. Finally a voice came from the depths of the veil. It said:

"George, you ridiculous fellow, take me out of this crowd; I want to talk to you!"

The young man's look of wonderment at the sound of that voice was comical. He lifted the veil a trifle to satisfy himself that he was not mistaken, and that it was indeed Jennie Sooy, then clasped her again, with greater fervor than before.

"George! George!" she pleaded in a whisper, "do take me some place where I can talk to you alone."

George released her, and led the way into the private office. She threw back her veil and looked appealingly into his face. George promptly kissed her, and was about to repeat the dutiful embrace, when she drew back, and said indignantly:

"George Roberts, if you don't behave I'll go right away into this great big city, where I haven't got a single friend but you, an' lose myself."

With that Jenuie laid her head on his shoulder, and cried heartily for the space of five minutes.

"There, there, Jen, I didn't mean to hurt your feelings. There now, don't cry, but tell me what's the matter, and why you are here in this masquerade."

Jennie told her tale, and George listened with a grave face. Jennie had reached the point in her narrative where she had found herself alone in the city, and had come to George to ask his advice, when a knock was heard at the door. George answered it and returned to Jennie with a telegram in his hand. He tore it open and read it.

"Mother has telegraphed that she was married last night to Eph Dollin, and has gone away on a wedding trip. She wants me to come home for a month, and look after the place for her. It's about my vacation-time, and I'll ask for leave."

Jennie looked blank.

"But what's to be done about you, Jen?" he continued. "It won't do to take you to my boarding-house, and you've nowhere to go. I'll tell you what, Jen, let's get married. We've always loved one another, and I have always meant to marry you some day, if I could win you. You are alone and helpless, Jen, and want my advice. Here it is. I advise you to marry me right away, and we'll take our wedding journey this very day. Come, Jen, what do you say?"

Jennie looked into his eyes.

"George, ours is an awful family to marry into. Think twice before you take such a step."

"You're out of the family, at any rate just at present, and as your father has cast you off, you are under no obligations to sacrifice yourself on his account."

"But you forget my mother, an' how I'm sort of disgraced by bein' her child, an' dad's."

"Come, Jen, you can't terrify me. I know all about you, though how Ham Sooy came to have you for a daughter is a mystery. We'll leave the whole Sooy tribe behind us, and begin life unvexed by the shades of half a dozen defunct step-mothers. Say, shall we not?"

It is to be presumed that Jennie answered that question to her lover's complete satisfaction, for he sought and obtained leave of absence from the office, and an hour later stood with Jennie in the dingy back room of a justice shop, before a portly, gray-haired gentleman, who pronounced the words that made them one.

Ham Sooy fretted the day away in angry impatience. He had ventured a little way from the depot in the morning, but a newsboy had pertly told him there "was hayseed in his hair," a hootblack inquired confidentially, "Where did you get that hat?" and a cabman had cried to a kindred spirit, as he went by his stand, "Shoot the jay." He was afraid of losing his bearings and being late for the train Egyptward, though it was not due to leave for hours. Thus all day long, sore and stiff with travel, he cogitated upon the probabilities of Mrs. Roberts having married Eph. He was too stingy to purchase a first-class ticket back home, and in the dingy, dirty smoking-car made the long journey, arriving early the following day at the town from which he had set forth with such high hopes. His butternut suit was creased, dusty and dirty, his venerable tile was crushed out of shape from being sat upon and slept in, his red necktie hung about his neck limp and dejected, and he was altogether a weary, bear-eyed spectacle of a returned traveler. The first person whom he saw when he alighted from the train was Jennie, resplendent in a new gown which her husband had insisted on purchasing for her ready made, and smiling and blushing under the nodding white plumes of her wedding bonnet. He stared in astonishment, but when George Roberts alighted from the car, and drew her arm within his with an air of proprietorship, Ham realized what had happened.

The couple had not seen him, for instead of coming into the waiting-room, which he had sought, and from whose shelter he was peering out at them, they stepped into a carriage standing near the platform and drove away. When crestfallen Ham slunk homeward,

he went out of his way to pass the Widow Roberts' house. George and Jennie were sitting on the front porch, and Mary, the "help," was swinging on the big gate, having despaired him in the distance.

"How dy do, Mr. Sooy," she called out.

"How dy do," replied Ham, not daring to look her in the face, fearing that she would read in his own countenance his anger and chagrin. He paused irresolutely, opened his mouth to ask a question, shut it without saying anything, and turned away as if to proceed.

"Miss' Roberts is married to Eph Dollin' an' George is married to Jen," she said. "I knowed you'd been away an' hadn't heard the news. Have a pleasant journey, Mr. Sooy?"

"Naw," replied Ham. "Didn't go for pleasure—went on a business jaunt—went to sell my wheat—good-day," and he proceeded to his domicile, where Mat met him with a more radiant face than she had worn for many a day.

Ham Sooy was joked a little by his friends about his "sixth," but he is still a widower. He has refused to "lead" ever since the memorable Sunday in which he made his lonely state the subject of his petitions, and Mat declares that he "is gettin' too crabbed for anythin'."

Mat made a visit not long since to Jennie in her city home, and came back full of the splendors of her sister's establishment, which, though but a modest second floor "flat," seemed palatial to Mat, and on Sunday afternoons she goes "down to the Mrs. Dollin's."

Eph's wife is so happy with her husband that she forgave Jennie the ruse that deprived her of the felicity of being Sooy's "sixth."

The two women, Mat and Mrs. Dollin, in their Sunday chats speak enthusiastically of Jennie and her husband, and both are agreed that "Jen's baby is the peerest an' smartest child of its age that ever wuz."

THE END.

SANDWICH ISLAND MISSIONS.

For more than half a century the Sandwich Islands have been the one spot on the face of the globe in which the churches of the United States have felt a great, peculiar and active interest. The American missionary work converted the people of those islands from barbarism to Christianity and civilization. For half a century there has not been a neighborhood in all this country that has not actively identified itself in some way with this work. Vast sums of money in a continuous stream have flowed in the treasury of missionary societies to sustain it.

Hundreds of American men and women have given the best part of their lives to the cause of Christianity in the islands, and the name of Missionary Bingham is still a familiar and venerated one in thousands of households in the United States. In this way the islands, in the triumph of civilization and growth of Christianity, are in an important and almost literal sense the offspring of the United States. It was through influences set at work years ago by missionaries, gloriously sustained by the churches of America, that this new republic of the Pacific—almost, if not quite a republic, at least—came to exist, and it is this that Grover Cleveland, by turning the wheels of progress backward, by hauling down the American flag that had been raised by liberty-loving people, has handed over to the deposed queen of bad form, when, by as much as the weight of his finger, he might have helped the islands to become a republic indeed. He hauled down the stars and stripes, and if the islands do not become a monarchy itself, or a dependency of a more powerful monarchy, it will be because his plans will fail.

This will be bad news in all the churches of the United States. Whether the Sandwich islands will become a monarchy or a dependency of some more powerful monarchy, and in this way a menace to the United States, or whether the spirit planted there by those who gave the islands an existence in civilization, will be strong enough to rescue them and prove itself master of the situation, is the present question of great gravity. There is reason for hoping that the American spirit will prove strong enough there to save the islands from the fate to which Mr. Cleveland has done what he could to consign them.—*New York Sun.*

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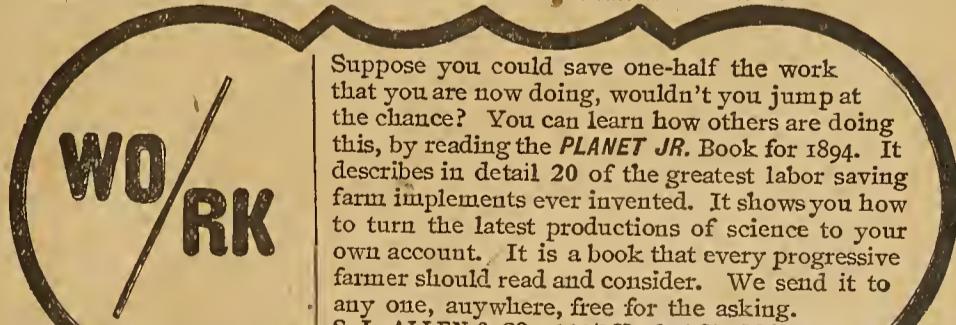
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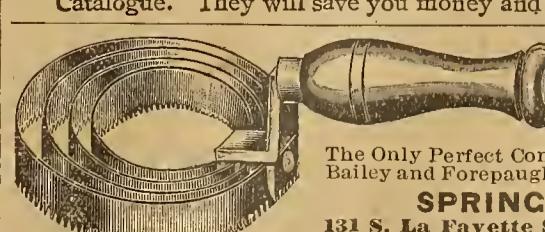
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Our Household.

THE SONGS MY MOTHER SUNG.

Sing the songs that my mother sung,
For their dear old tunes are best,
And their words taste sweet to my tired
tongue;

I am weary of all the rest.

Sing me the songs that my mother sung
As I nodded by her knee,
And my drowsy head into slumber swung
With the quaint old melody:

"Dah was an ole niggah, an' his name was
Uncle Ned,

An' he died long, long time ago;
An' he had no wool on de top of his head
In de place wha de wool orter grow.
Ole Ned had flingers like de cane in de brake,
An' he had no eyes fo' to see,
An' he had no teeth fo' to eat de cohn-cake,
So he had to let de cohn-cake be.

"Deu hang up de fiddle an' de bow,
Lay down the shubble an' de hoe;
Dah's no mo' ha'd wo'k fo' pore ole Ned,
Kase he's gone wha' de good niggahs go."

Sing me the songs that my mother sung,
So soft, so sweet, so clear;
All the songs you sing me are too high-strung,
And I hunger just to hear
One of the songs she used to sing
In the days when I was young;
For the newer cadences do not eling
Like the songs my mother sung.

"Way down in the valley, where the lily first
blows,

Where the breeze from the mountain ne'er
ruffles the rose,
Lives sweet Evelina, my dear little dove,
The pride of the valley, the girl that I love.

"Sweet Evelina, dear Evelina,
My love for you shall never, never die!
Sweet Evelina, dear Evelina,
My love for you shall never, never die!"

Sing the songs that my mother sung,
Before her hair turned white,
When her face was fair as a rosebud flung
On the breeze of a summer night.

Sing me the songs that she used to sing
With a quaver in each tone,
When the summer twilight was vanishing
And the summer day was done.

"Down in de canebrake close by de mill,
Dere libbed a yaller gal, her name was Nancy
Till.

I told her dat I lubbed her, she said she lubbed
me, too,
So we bofe lubbed each odder—we had nuffin
else to do.

"Come, love, come, and go along with me,
And I'll take you down to Tennessee!
Come, love, come, and go along with me,
And I'll take you down to Tennessee!"

These are the songs I would rather hear
Than all you sing to-day;
For they ring in my memory faint, but clear
From that babyland far away,

Out in the shadows of long ago
Where their lullaby first rung

For the little fellow who loved them so,
These old songs that my mother sung.

"Oh, when I'm dead and gone to rest,
Lay de banjo by my side;
Let de possum and coon to de funeral come,
For dey's my only pride.

And when I'm takin' my sweet repose,
I'll dream foreber more
Dat you've laid my bones in ole Virginny,
On ole Virginny's shore!"

—Jack Bennet, in *Brandon Banner*.

WEE GOWNS FOR WEE GIRLS.

I have lately seen the gowns a sensible
mother has made for her girlie of two years.
They are pretty, and easily made by the
mother who does her own sewing.



FIG. 1.

The first little gown is of very soft,
light gray flannel. The skirt has two
and one half straight breadths, a deep
hem that will allow for lengthening
the same when necessary; the skirt is
very long. Above the hem is a feather-
stitching of interlacing squares, done in
canary-colored wash silk. The little waist
is made to simulate waist and guimpe.
The yoke is of yellow-gray flannel, and
has a ruffle of the same encircling its
rounding shape; the ruffle is feather-
stitched all along its lower edge with the

yellow silk, and it has a heading of a narrow bias band, which is first stitched on with the machine and then feather-stitched. This gives the yoke the appearance of being a guimpe. The sleeves are of the yellow-gray flannel, cut large and full, and are gathered into a ruffle about two inches in width at the wrist; the ruffle is feather-stitched along its edge. The lower part of the waist is of the flannel like the skirt.

After making Fig. 1, there was a good-sized piece of the light gray flannel left. This was cut into a skirt and waist, as shown in Fig. 2. A blue opera-flannel sack had been laid away for years. This was cut into a waist Shirred at the neck in front. Large, full sleeves and collar were added. Then the gray was feather-stitched with blue of the same shade as the waist. Two straight lines of feather-stitching were made about three inches apart on the bottom of the skirt; then a spray of three daisy heads and leaf was done in Kensington stitch, at intervals between. The top of the gray waist, which was cut low and square, with little straps over the shoulders, was feather-stitched, as also were the straps. This little gown looks very pretty on the little maid who wears it, and when necessary, the two little gray gowns may be used to make over together. Both will be worn about the same.

Another neat little dress was made from an old bronze-green flannel of the mother's. This was cut full and gathered from the neck, from which it falls to the tiny ankles of the wearer. A hem was blind-stitched, and then a curved line was feather-stitched

sewed, shirr two or three times and lay a piece under to stay the gathers. Gather a double ruffle, full, to finish the neck.

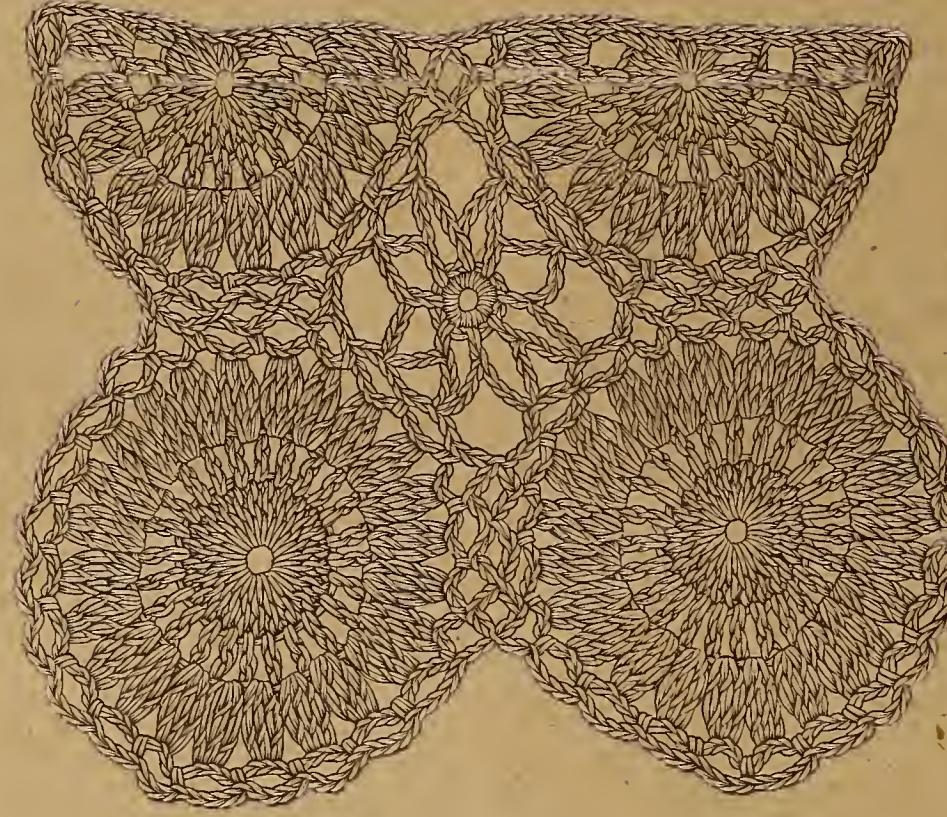
The best way to get the exact length, and to be certain that the gown will hang evenly around the bottom, is to put it on the little miss and then pin it up; all the extra length may be turned up in a hem, which can be let down as required. I do the feather-stitching before I blind-stitch the hem; then when letting down is desirable, it can be done without pulling out the embroidery. I would suggest, however, that you first lay the hem so as to be certain you get the needlework at an equal distance from every part of it. This pattern is one of the prettiest for sheer white goods, for apron or gown. It has many excellent points besides its prettiness. A gown with a waist soon gets too small, but this one, shirred as it is, full at the neck, gives ample breadth of shoulder and fullness of waist as long as the gown lasts; so, if enough is at hand for new sleeves when needed and the hem is ample to let down, the gown can be worn as long as it lasts to wear. This an item not to be despised by the mother who does her own sewing and has to economize in other ways as well. Narrower material may be used than that mentioned, by putting gores on the side, to give the necessary fullness.

ROSE SEELYE-MILLER.

CROCHETED TIDY (GROUP OF THREES) IN WHEELS.

ABBREVIATIONS.—Ch, chain; d c, double crochet; s c, single crochet; l-tr, long treble; st, stitch; tr, treble.

First row (one wheel)—Ch 7, join 1 s c,



CROCHETED TIDY.

above, a star being made in each of the curves. This gown looked so well that a new red cashmere was cut in the same way. The feather-stitching around the bottom was done in fern fronds with pink wash silk.

These little gowns are not difficult to cut or make, and all were cut using a plain waist pattern for their basis. You could easily cut a waist pattern by following measurements in Fig. 1. The lower part of the waist, No. 2, you will see, simply has the upper part left off entirely. The square yoke and sleeves were of blue, and are really another waist, over which the gray with its dainty shoulder-straps is worn.

For cutting Fig. 3 for a child of two years, one and three fourths yards of goods forty-four inches wide will do, with right management. The diagram of pattern shows both back and front, the only difference being that the front is cut lower in the neck, following the dotted line, and the arm-scye is also cut a different shape, as the dotted line indicates. Cut off a strip from the cloth widthways, wide enough to make a double ruffle for the neck. Now cut your cloth in two equal lengths, fold one of these directly in the center lengthwise, lay your pattern on and cut the front. Cut the back from the other piece. A slit will have to be cut in the center of the back for an opening. Face this and press all seams. From the side, where the gown is slanted from arm-scye to bottom, will be a piece of material, from which the sleeves may be cut; use the widest part for the sleeve, and below this will be a piece that may be used for a cuff. Gather the gown at the neck after the seams are

ELLA McCOWEN.

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THE KITCHEN AS AN ART GALLERY.

Lately, on going into a friend's kitchen I was surprised to see the large portions of the walls literally covered with pictures, ent from *Harper's Weekly* and different magazines. There were scenes from the world's fair, portraits of many distinguished men, bits of landscape and scenes



FIG. 2.

of celebrated places; in fact, just such a collection as one might gather at random from the different magazines which find their way into the house. The idea was a novel one, and put into execution, was decidedly instructive.

Pictures are great educators, and may be made to awaken a great interest in young people. A twenty-five-cent copy of Rosa Bonheur's famous "Horse Fair" was recently hung in a school-room. A great curiosity was aroused in the minds of some of the pupils, which led to a study of this famous artist. It was interesting to learn that during the Franco-Prussian war, while famous buildings, both public and private, were being burned, the crown prince of Prussia ordered his troops to spare the residence and studio of Rosa Bonheur, thus preserving some of the world's most famous pictures.

The pleasure of looking upon the great masterpieces of illustrious painters is denied the mass, yet copies of them may be obtained at a low value and still give one a good idea of the original, especially as many of them are reproduced in the original colors.

Many a heart has been touched by the beautiful sentiment expressed in "The Angelus," even though it was seen only in a poor woodcut.

MARY D. SIBLEY.

Supplementing this, I would like to say how much good a woodcut of the Hotel Atheneum porch at Chautauqua did me, which I cut from John Habberton's story of "The Chautauquans," which appeared in the New York *Ledger*. I pinned it up on my bedroom wall. I could look at it and imagine I was there. Looking toward the pier, I could feel the air from the lake, and it comforted me the summers I could not go.

Ali, pictures are a great educator. Put



FIG. 3.

them up around the house unframed, and when they have told their story, fill their places with others. CHRISTIE IRVING.

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TWILIGHT BRIDGE.

I know a little fairy bridge that spans a tiny stream,
And there the sky is ever clear, for life is like a dream.
As the silv'ry stream goes rippling, running onward to the sea,
While the little birds are singing in an ecstasy of glee.

The path one side the tiny stream is bright and busy Day,
And Night, a forest dark and drear, lies just across the way;
But the fairy bridge called Twilight, clasping hands between the two,
Is the brightest, dearest spot on earth a mortal heart e'er knew.

For when the day has passed away I meet my sweetheart there,
While in the rippling stream beneath I throw away my care.
And just the falling shadows and the sunset glow above
Watch o'er the little Twilight bridge and witness to our love.

—Edith Livingston Crary.

STERILIZING MILK.

At the request of the secretary of agriculture, the chief of the bureau of animal industry has furnished the following simple directions for the sterilization of milk:

"The sterilization of milk for children, now quite extensively practiced in order to destroy the injurious germs which it may contain, can be satisfactorily accomplished with very simple apparatus.

The vessel containing the milk, which may be the bottle from which it is to be used or any other suitable vessel, is placed inside of a larger vessel of metal which contains the water. If a bottle, it must be plugged with absorbent cotton, if this is at hand, or in its absence, other clean cotton will answer. A small fruit-jar, loosely covered, may be used instead of a bottle. The requirements are simply that the interior vessel shall be raised about half an inch above the bottom of the other, and that the water shall reach nearly or quite as high as the milk. The apparatus is then heated on a range or stove until the water reaches a temperature of 155 degrees Fahrenheit, when it is removed from the heat and kept tightly covered for half an hour. The milk-bottles are then taken out and kept in a cool place. The milk may be used at any time within twenty-four hours. A temperature of 150 degrees maintained for half an hour is sufficient to destroy any germs likely to be present in the milk, and it is found in practice that raising the temperature to 155 degrees and then allowing it to stand in the heated water for half an hour insures the proper temperature for the required time. The temperature should not be raised above 155 degrees, otherwise the taste and quality of the milk will be impaired.

"The simplest plan is to take a tin pail and invert a perforated tin pie-plate in the bottom, or have made for it a removable false bottom, perforated with holes and having legs half an inch high, to allow circulation of the water. The milk-bottle is set on this false bottom, and sufficient water is put into the pail to reach the level of the surface of the milk in the bottle. A hole may be punched in the cover of the pail, a cork inserted, and a chemical thermometer put through the cork, so that the bulb dips into the water. The temperature can thus be watched without removing the cover. If preferred an ordinary dairy thermometer may be used and the temperature tested from time to time by removing the lid. This is very easily arranged, and is just as satisfactory as the patented apparatus sold for the same purpose. The accompanying illustrations show the form of apparatus described."

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GRANDMOTHER'S WAY.

Some time ago a sister reader asked for a different stitch to knit. I will try to give the directions for the way our grandmothers knit their men-folks' "galluses." It may not be necessary for us to knit such things, but I think we should preserve the way it was done. No "galluses" now bought will outlast or feel easier than those knit with "home-made yarn."

Cast on an even number of stitches (I have here 16 stitches), knit the first stitch, put the yarn under the right-hand needle, take off one stitch, cross the yarn back again.

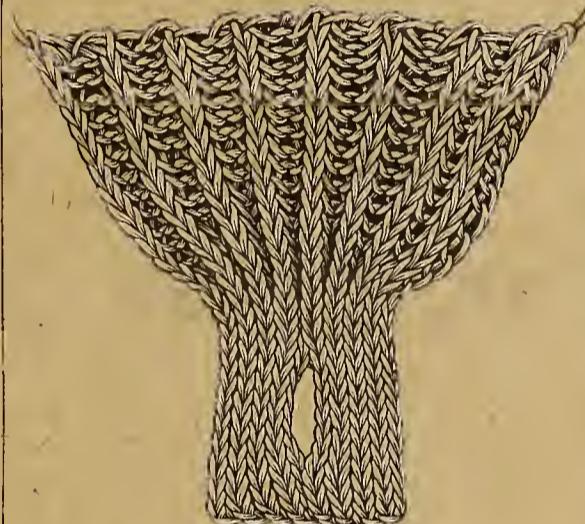
Knit one stitch, put the yarn in under the needle again, take off another stitch, put the yarn back and knit one; so on across. Then begin over again, the same, knit the first, and so on. Do not at any time knit the same one going back that you did in going across before.

Knit about half an inch, then take another needle. Knit one half of the stitches for perhaps an inch, then break off the thread (leaving quite a long end). Go back and knit the other side as long, and knit both together for an inch or so. Then knit the first stitch, put the yarn in under the needle, take off a stitch, then knit one.

Let the yarn form a loop over the stitch taken off, put the yarn under the needle, take off a stitch, knit one, and so on across. Begin over again as before, taking care not to knit the same stitch each time across, but knit the loop with the stitch it crosses.

When long enough for the suspenders (or galluses of our grandmothers' time), knit the first for a finger or so, then bind off. If it is knit right, this will be double. Take the ends and sew back and forth, to stay the buttonholes.

I have tried to make this plain. If any



KNIT SUSPENDERS.

one wants to try these stitches and does not understand them, I will send sample.

MRS. M. FISKE.

Fuckerton, Ocean county, N. J.
P. S.—Can any of the sisters give me the directions for oak-leaf or shell-work stockings?

M. F.

FACTS CONCERNING CAKE-MAKING.

If there is one article of food that has caused more anxiety on the part of the housekeeper than all others, it is cake. For who has not tried, on some special occasion, to have her cake a little better and made a failure of it, and at the same time could not account for the cause?

It is not strange that this has happened, for there is no other article which is so sensitive to material, to the mode of making, and even to the altitude in which it is made, and on which so little pains has been taken to enlighten the housekeeper, or help her in the anxious endeavor to master the art.

The most important part in selecting the material is to be sure to get a winter-wheat flour, known to the trade as pastry flour, for while spring-wheat flour is the best for bread, it is impossible to have success with the more delicate cakes when this is used.

In regard to sugar, granulated is considered the best, although some have failed by using it, for the reason that they use too much; being heavier than the soft sugars, it requires one fifth less to give the same effect.

Another important part to be considered is the eggs, for while it is essential that they should be fresh, a great deal of the success will depend on the way they are beaten. It is immaterial as to the kind of beater used in beating the yolks, only that they are beaten thoroughly. Very few take the time to beat them as they should be, and consequently the cake is heavy and has a strong taste of the egg, which so many object to in cakes containing the

yolks, which would not be the case were the yolks properly beaten. The whites of the eggs should always be beaten with a whip beater or fork, when they are to be used in the cake. Rotary beaters do not fill the air-cells, but toughen the cake; therefore, the cake will not raise to the required lightness, and will be tough. Especially is this true in angel, sunshine and sponge cakes.

In mixing cakes there are two rules which are very important, for what will make one class of cake better will spoil the other. The first applies to cakes containing butter and milk; they should be stirred or beaten thoroughly, especially after the flour is added. The second applies to sponge-cakes, and includes all cakes that do not contain butter or milk; these should never be stirred, but sugar and other ingredients beaten in, being careful to beat up, to keep the batter light, and the flour should be added last and folded lightly through, being careful not to overdo this, for every stroke of the spoon after the flour is added tends to toughen the batter. This is one cause of many tough sponge-cakes.

Cakes should be baked in ungreased molds, allowing them to stick to the tin so they can be inverted and allowed to hang in the mold to cool, which is the only way known to keep them from settling. In this way cakes do not require as much flour, or to be made as stiff, as in the old way, and are far more delicate. It is on this account that the Mrs. Van Deusen cake-molds, offered as a premium in the FARM AND FIRESIDE, have become so popular with the housekeepers. The cake is allowed to stick and hang to cool, and is then loosened with a knife and removed as easily as from a greased tin. They are the only molds that fill successfully the long-recognized want, and are fast taking the place of all others.

The last, but not the least important part is the baking, which, with a little care, can be easily mastered. As a great deal depends on the class of cake, and also on the altitude in which it is made, no definite time can be given in which to bake them. The best way is to allow the cake to raise to the desired lightness before browning over, and after it has raised, increase the heat and bake as fast as possible without burning. The higher the altitude the quicker the cake will raise, thus requiring to be baked faster, allowing fully fifteen minutes less time in Colorado than in New York. So great is the difference in these localities that very few of the more delicate

cakes can be made successfully in both places without varying the recipes; but there are so many points to be considered on the subject of altitude that it would require an article on the subject to do it justice, as is also the case with each of the other subjects considered.

In my next I will give especial attention to a few recipes for cakes containing butter and milk.

MRS. C. A. CHAPMAN.

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Why should you be idle for one hour? No use in the world for it. Every moment of the working part of each day ought to be employed. The busy people are the happy people. B. F. Johnson & Co., of Richmond, Va., are offering in this paper to show you how to turn every hour into solid cash.

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HOME TOPICS.

FRIED PARSNIPS.—If you wish your parsnips to be especially nice, try this way of frying them, which I have never seen published and have only just learned myself. Scrape the parsnips and parboil in salted water, then before putting them in to fry, dip each piece in molasses, then fry as usual, and see if they are not pronounced by all who eat them as "the best parsnips I ever ate."



BRAN COFFEE.—A cupful of hot coffee, with plenty of cream, is relished by nearly everyone with their breakfast, but many of us cannot drink coffee without feeling some bad effect from it, and again good coffee is quite expensive. The following recipe makes a coffee which can be drunk by children, dyspeptics or any one, without any danger, and certainly from an economical point of view it is a success: Moisten two quarts of wheat bran with a teaspoonful of New Orleans molasses, mixing and rubbing it well together until all is moistened alike. Brown it in the oven as you would brown green coffee, and then use it the same as any coffee. A little coffee may be mixed with it if it is not liked clear; one teaspoonful of coffee with five of the bran will make three cups of coffee. There is a hygienic coffee composed entirely of cereals, which may be bought at twenty cents a pound, but nearly everyone likes the bran coffee just as well, and it costs about two cents a pound—not counting the trouble of preparing it.

PANDOWDY, OR APPLE-SLUMP.—A New England friend who was visiting me during the holidays, in talking of old-fashioned dishes, said: "Do you ever make apple-slump?" I did not know it by that name, but when she told me how she made it, recognized an old friend I had been familiar with when a child, under the name of pandowdy. It is a good, wholesome, old-fashioned dish, by whatever name called, and is made as follows:

Pare, quarter and core enough tart apples to fill a deep earthen pudding-dish heaping full; stew them with as little water as possible until about half done, then season them with molasses, cinnamon and butter. Put them in the pudding-dish and cover with a crust made of short biscuit dough, rolled a half inch thick. Bake this in a slow oven about an hour, covering the top



BONBON-BASKET.

if the crust is liable to get too brown. Break the crust in small pieces into the apple, stir it together and put it back in the oven for another half hour. Do not have the oven very hot. This can be served hot or cold. When cold it should be of a jelly-like consistency.

TALKING ABOUT CHILDREN IN THEIR PRESENCE.—The wise parent will not do this, either to repeat the common ways and bright sayings of her little ones, or to speak of their faults or shortcomings. Very little children will notice when they are

being talked about, and in the former case will have their self-esteem unduly fostered, in the latter will be unnecessarily hurt and mortified. Often the parents who flatter their children by repeating their sayings when they are little, are the ones who are mortified when they are older by public reproof for faults their own course has indeed. The child cannot see why sayings and actions which he has heard talked of as bright and funny are now frowned upon, and although hurt and mortified, he seeks to hide it by a sullen and obstinate temper. It is only through loving sympathy, a watching for little peculiarities of mother and little suggestions of father's character cropping out in our child, a remembrance of the feelings and fancies of our own childhood and a prayerful dependence on the guidance of the all-wise Father, that we can hope to lead our children through childhood and youth to a pure and noble manhood and womanhood.

MAIDA McL.

OAK-LEAF EDGING, CROCHETED.

ABBREVIATIONS.—Sh, shell; ch, chain; st, stitch; tr, treble; d c, double crochet; s c, single crochet.

There are two rows of shells. Crochet the row with the edge on first, and the row with heading on next, crocheted all opposite the first row, joining the first and second rows of shells together with 1 sc in each loop of 5 ch. Also, each oak leaf has five ferns, and when crocheting the second oak leaf, join the first fern to the last fern of the first oak leaf, where the fourth row is joined.

First row—Ch 16 st, 1 sc in seventh st, miss 3 st, 1 sh (3 tr, ch 1, 3 tr) in next st, miss 3 st, 1 sc in next, ch 5; turn.

Second row—1 sh in sh, ch 11, 1 dc in sixth st of ch, * ch 5, 1 dc in the same st; repeat from * four times, making five loops of 5 ch; turn.

Third row—* 1 dc, 5 tr, 1 dc in 5 ch; repeat from * five times, making five ferns, and join first fern to the loop of the first row. 3 dc on first 3 st of next 5 ch, ch 2, 1 sh in sh, ch 5; turn.

This completes one oak leaf.

Fourth row—1 sh in sh, ch 2, join in middle of last fern, ch 3, 1 sh in sh, ch 5; turn. Repeat from second row for length required, and at the end, after 3 ch of the fourth row. Omit the rest, and put 1 sc in each st of the last sh.

Ch 20 st. 1 tr in fourth st, ch 2, miss 2, 1 sc in next st, miss 3 st, 1 sh in next st, miss 3 st, 1 sc in next, ch 2. * Join to the first loop of 5 ch of the first row of sh, ch 3; turn.

Second—Tr on second tr, ch 2, 1 sh in sh, ch 2. Join to next loop of 5 ch. Repeat from * in first row for the length required, and at the end, after 2 tr and 2 ch, crochet 1 sc in each st of the last sh, ch 4 and join to first st of the foundation ch.

THE LOWER EDGE.

First row—* 1 tr in second st of first fern, keeping last loop on hook, 1 tr in second st of next fern. Crochet all loops on hook off as 1 tr, (a) 1 picot (ch 5, 1 dc in first st of ch), 1 tr in center st of second fern, 1 picot, 1 tr in same st, 1 picot. Repeat from * three times, and also repeat from * to (a) once. Repeat from first * for length required.

ELLA McCOWEN.

BONBON-BASKET.

One of the many beautiful articles which can be made from crepe-paper, and which would be suitable for a gift to a friend at all seasons of the year, is a bonbon-basket.

The cut represents one made of violet crepe, the lid covered with paper violets. Cut from white, medium cardboard two oblong pieces, eight inches long and three and one half inches wide, and two a trifle larger for the lid. Cover smoothly one large and one small piece on one side with crepe-paper, and the other large and small pieces on one side with the crepe, slightly puffed. This is done by drawing the fingers across the grain a couple of times. Now paste the small pieces together, and the large pieces also, and put under a press.

You are now ready for the rope, of which the basket is made. Cut across the crepe twenty strips two inches wide, very

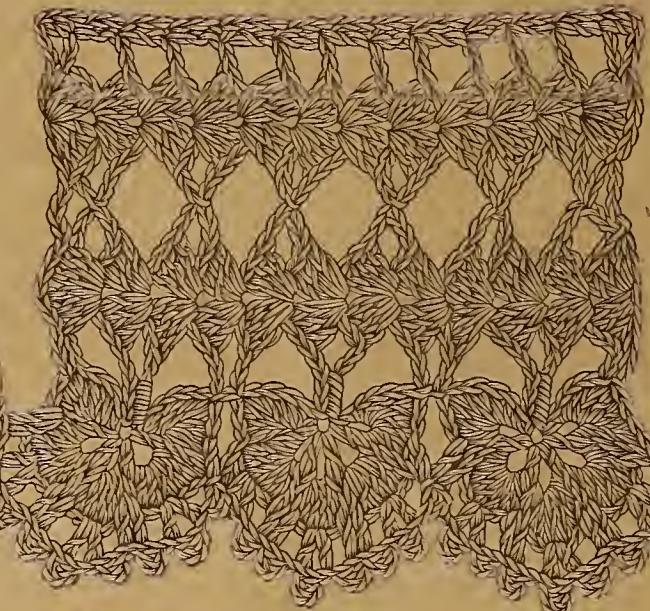
even and straight, in order to have a nice, smooth rope. Paste with good, stainless paste that will dry quickly (such as comes for the purpose, and can be purchased at the book-stores) these strips together, lapping just enough to hold securely. You now have one long string. With assistance, twist this as for cord, taking care to twist enough before doubling. After doubling, twist again and wind tightly around the hand. You will now have a firm rope to build the basket with.

Join one end of the rope neatly and securely to the small piece of cardboard already covered for the bottom. Paste the rope around and around, pressing it firmly together, until it is six rows high. Care must be taken to keep the sides straight.

Now fasten the lid by means of very small paper cord inserted through the rope of basket middle of one side of the lid, and tied on top in pretty bows. This acts as a hinge.

Cut three strips of paper two inches wide, for the handle. Before twisting, put a piece of fine wire, one half the length of the paper when gummed together, and twist, double, twist and double again. This makes a firm, thick handle. Paste this very securely on the outside of the basket, on each side of the middle, pressing it tightly to the rope of the basket.

Now the basket is ready for the decoration. Make a small bow of paper ribbon cut across the crepe, and paste on the lid in the center. Surround this with violets made from tissue-paper No. 123, 68A and 62, using olive-green No. 9 D for the stems and leaves. Cut your paper into squares



OAK-LEAF LACE, CROCHETED.

of one and one half inches, and fold twice, in order to make eight lobes. After cutting on the dotted lines, take two of these and place one inside the other, so the lobes or petals will alternate; pinch together from the center, attaching the stem—a narrow strip of olive-green, cut about one eighth of an inch wide and six inches long, twisted as you would lamp-lighters. When dry, open with some dull instrument and slightly curl the petals, some outward and the center ones inward. Arrange the different colors, some without stems, over the lid and a few on the bow, pasting them in place.

O. M. SMITH.

FOR THE LITTLE FOLK.

The patron saint of Valentine's day is the merriest, brightest little saint on earth. His name is Cupid, and one day out of the three hundred and sixty-five he claims for his very own.

This day, the fourteenth of February, is a combined Christmas and Fourth of July celebration to him. Many sleepless nights has he had throughout the year, when wild pranks have been contemplated, wild schemes made or rhymes evolved which no one could write but Cupid himself.

There is no dependence to be placed upon the little fellow. He does just what you don't expect him to do. But there is one nice thing about him, after all—he is not a bit particular in what circle of society he moves.

Everyone knows him, and somehow everyone has a sneaking regard for him. That's Cupid.

There's another good thing about him—he has learned to perfection the secret of making other people happy, and he's back of all the jolly little messages and pretty little cards which are flying around just at this time.

At no time during the year does he receive so many smiles and so much attention as on St. Valentine's day. On almost

every valentine a picture of his chubby little self may be seen.

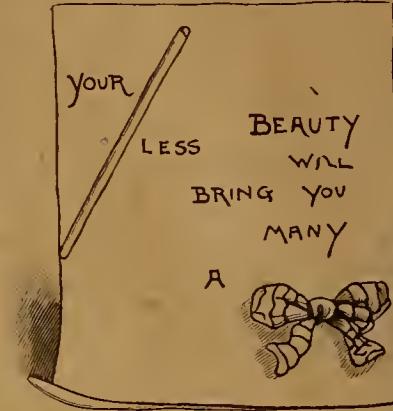
There are valentines of every kind this year; many of the inexpensive ones are bright and pretty. This valentine is apt to make the children laugh; there is such a funny little darky's face on a plain white card. The darky is holding up in his small, black hands the soles of two big shoes, and here is the verse that is written below:

My heart and all this to boot;
My sole adores the precious one,
Oh, come and heel my woes!
Your Valentine.

Another valentine represents in shape and color a large watermelon. The melon opens, and within is the verse:

Two souls with but a single thought;
Two hearts that beat as one.

Another represents a little colored girl



in a field eating a melon almost as large as herself. Under the picture is written:

Massy sakes, don't I love you!

A valentine easily made is of thick, rough paper cut in the shape of the sole of a shoe. On the outside, with a drawing-pen is written in gilt letters, "A Whole-souled Confession." Within are love verses, original or not, just as the sender may choose.

A rather novel home-made valentine is a heart cut out of thick, white paper. A yellow paper pumpkin is its only ornamentation, and underneath are the words, "My heart is as full of love for you as a pumpkin is full of seed."

Sometimes the cards are tinted and the tie matches it in color. With the lettering in gilt it makes a pretty valentine.

An odd affair is a card of thick, rough paper. A match is tied in one corner and a bow of ribbon in the other.

Another white paper heart has in one corner a net made of wire, and caught in its meshes is a tiny spider. This is the verse written in gilt:

Love that bath one in his net.

A valentine which the girls are making this year is a plain white card. At one side is a small "four-in-hand" satin tie. The verse is appropriate:

Blest be the tie that binds.

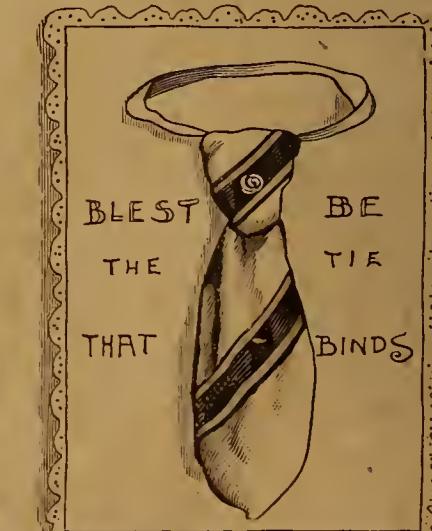
A dainty valentine is made in this way: Cut out of thick paper two large hearts. Cover them with light blue silk, then cover the silk in turn with bolting-cloth. Sew together and paint a vine of blue forget-me-nots around the edge of the heart. In silver lettering write the words:

Greetings loyng, greetings true,
Take them, dear, they're all for you.

A pretty valentine card is in the shape of a bottle of perfume. It opens, showing a pretty verse inside. A dainty sachet to be sent as a valentine is a pink silk heart perfumed with the fragrance of the rose. Upon the outside is a rose made of ribbon, and peeping out from the petals is the pictured face of the sender. In gilt letters are the words:

In every heart, as all the world knows,
Cupid is hiding under the rose.

A present which makes a nice valentine to send to a little girl—and a big girl, too, for that matter—is a box, in the shape of a heart, filled with dainty bonbons. It should be tied with ribbon and accompanied by the old but good sentiment, "Sweets to the sweet."



Valentine book-marks are made of broad bands of violet ribbon, with dark purple pansies painted upon them.

AN OPPORTUNE FRIEND will be found in Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant, when racked by a severe Cold, and the many Lung or Throat affections which sometimes follow. This old remedy has met the approval of two generations, and is to-day as popular, safe, and effective as ever.

"PAPA WON'T BUY ME A BOW-WOW."

No, but he will send for a set of our World's Fair Views, if you show him how he can get them for nothing. See page 19.

FLORICULTURE and KITCHEN GARDENING.

ABOUT SWEET-PEAS.

Doubtless every reader knows the beauties and value of the varieties of sweet-peas, and more or less of their culture. Last spring a dozen or fifteen new varieties were introduced, all of them of great merit, and a glance at the advance sheets of the catalogues of our leading florists show that this year a further addition will be made to the list of desirable sorts.

Flower lovers who have not grown sweet-peas during the past five years will be astonished and delighted at the improvements made in the strains. This improvement is not only in variety of color, but in size, and with size, fortunately have not come weakness of stem or bloom, nor shyness of bloom. It is safe to say that our average blooms from the imported sorts of the day are from one third to a half larger than the best blooms of five years ago. Last spring we planted twenty-eight distinct sorts of the latest introductions, and on soil similar to ours—a moderately rich, sandy loam—we would recommend the following twelve kinds as the most desirable:

Alba Magnifica, pure white; Painted Lady, a crimson blush over a white ground, a very desirable and reliable sort; Senator, chocolate, creamy white; Blanche Ferry, pink and white; Isa Eckford, creamy white and rosy pink; Lottie Eckford, rose and white, edged with blue; Waverly, pale blue and rosy claret; Monarch, bronze crimson and olive; Mrs. Eckford, white, delicately shaded with primrose; Her Majesty, beautiful, soft, rosy pink; Dorothy Tenant, dark mauve; Mr. Sankey, large and pure white.

A few seeds of one of the new sorts which will be offered this spring under the name of "Infanta of Spain," was very satisfactory. It is of the purest white, large size and most profuse in bloom. Under a warm sun the blooms take on the slightest tinge of blush. While this may be considered objectionable in a pure white, the tinge is so slight that it adds to its beauty rather than detracts from it. Its large size and profuse blooming qualities will render it very popular.

It is generally known that to have the best success with sweet-peas, they must be planted early, but most growers do not consider that in this case *early* means as soon as the ground can be safely worked. Our best blooms last year were on plants from seed sown the tenth of February, during a warm spell which freed the ground of frost. Within a week after the seed was sown the ground froze again, and remained so for nearly a month. It had no bad effect, however, and settled weather brought the plants along in good shape. Our practice is to make a trench about five or six inches deep, sow the seed in the bottom of it and cover with soil an inch deep. After the plants are up about two or three inches high, more soil is gently placed against them, and this process repeated until the trench is nearly level with the surrounding soil. This method gives the plants a deep, strong root growth, enabling them to withstand severe drought.

Success in sweet-pea culture hinges mainly on these points. Early and deep planting, and a soil quite rich and moderately moist. During their growth, and especially when in bud and bloom, give an abundance of water at the roots—the warmer and drier the season, the more water.



MARGUERITE CARNATION.

GARDEN NOTES.

Lay aside an extra twenty-five or fifty cents to invest in the "new things" which are offered this year. The cost is little, only a small space of ground will be necessary, and you will have the satisfaction of proving for yourself on your own soil the value of the novelty. If it proves a good thing, you will know what to do another year. If of no value with you, the experience will be worth all it cost.

* * *

As a screen between the vegetable garden and the lawn or the street, or for the purpose of shutting off any objectionable view, try the following: Make a bed three feet wide the length of the space to be screened. At the back plant seed of Ricium (castor-oil plant). Use variety Cambodgensis, the foliage and stems of which are nearly black, at either end, and Gibsoni, a red-leaf sort, in the middle. In front of the castor-beans plant a row of scarlet sage (Salvia splendens), and in front of that a row of geraniums, nasturtiums or any other dwarf plant you choose. The effect will be strikingly handsome.

* * *

Lovers of the rose should try a bed of polyanthus this year. The type is entirely distinct from others, the blossoms being

THE MARGUERITE CARNATION.

We illustrate in this issue, from life, blossoms of the race of carnations known as Marguerites. The type is a most desirable one, and with amateurs will take the place of the florists' carnation to some extent. Its odor is fully as pronounced as the florists' carnation, and while the range of shades of color is not so large, nor the markings so varied, the solid colors are all that can be desired. The plants bearing the blossoms from which our illustration was made are from seed sown in March last. The plants showed their first bloom early in August following, and have been in constant bloom until this writing, December 28; they are now about "bloomed out."

The value of the type, in my opinion, after twelve months' testing, is the ease with which the plants may be raised from seed, earliness of bloom—beginning in four or five months from the sowing of the seed—the freedom of the plant from insect enemies and diseases and its general adaptability to the wants of the novice. The young plants are easily transplanted, and will bloom profusely all summer, and late in the fall they may be lifted from the ground, potted and brought into the window garden, where they will bloom until the holidays, and often later.

Some complaint has been made that the majority of the blossoms come single. I have found this the case with the tall sorts, but with the dwarf and half-dwarf kinds, if the seed is obtained from a reliable source, fully sixty per cent of the blossoms will be double, about twenty per cent semi-double and the remainder single. In our experiments we found that the Marguerites in pot culture would stand more heat and water than the so-called florists' carnation, which, as a rule, cannot be successfully grown in the living-room, because of the high temperature. Seed may be sown now in pots or shallow boxes indoors, the young plants transplanted when two inches high, and set out in the garden as early as the soil can be properly worked. Have the soil moderately rich and well drained. Set the plants in rows, so that they may be worked among during growth. If any of the plants are inclined to a slender, spindly growth, they should be staked soon after the tendency to a tall growth is developed.

TO CATARRH SUFFERERS.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a medicine which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending his name and address to Prof. Lawrence, 88 Warren Street, New York, will receive the means of cure free and post-paid.

SEEDS FREE FOR TRIAL

We have the Finest and Cheapest Seeds to be found in the world and we want every reader of this paper to try one of the following collections Free. They would cost you from 75c. to \$1.00 purchased elsewhere.

1st FREE OFFER, Vegetables, 1 pkt. each.
BEET, Mitchell's Blood Turnip, earliest and best.
CABBAGE, Surehead, sure to head.
CELERI, Golden Self Blanching, the best.
LETTUCE, Denver Market, fine new sort.
WATERMELON, Dixie, luscious, great bearer.
ONION, Selected Globe Danvers, standard sort.
RADISH, Summer Varieties, 15 choice kinds.
SQUASH, Fordhook, best, new sort.
TOMATO, Picture Rock, a grand tomato.

2d FREE OFFER, Rare Flowers.
FORGET-ME-NOT, New Giant Flowered, large.
CANDYTUFT, Fancy Mixture, best bouquet sorts.
CALENDULA, Double White, very showy.
CLARKIA, Salmon Queen, richest col'd double.
CHRYSANTHEMUM, White Bouquet, fine flower.
GAILLARDIA, Perpetual Flowered, rich, showy.
POPPY, Rivendale Mixture, fancy sorts only.
SCABIOSA, Dwarf, Double Striped, lovely, grand.
SNAPDRAGON, Show Mixed, penciled blossoms.
ORNAMENTAL GRASSES, 25 choice sorts.

Either of the above collections, (9 packets vegetable seeds, or 10 packets flower seeds) Mailed Free on following conditions: Send us 10c. for either of above collections, or 20c. for both, and we will mail them to you; also "Book on Summer Gardening," and include in each lot a check for 10c. This check you can return to us at any time and get 10c. worth of seeds, thus the collection really costs you nothing. (We charge this 10c. to prevent people from sending who have no use for the seeds.) We want you to try our seeds.

Both collections, hook, and packet each of the lovely early Carnation Marguerite and profuse blooming Begonia Vernon and a 25c. check for 25c. Book free to seed buyers.

J. J. BELL, Flowers, Broome Co., N. Y.

OLD RAGS

Colored with "PERFECTION" Dyes will make beautiful carpets and rugs, and are guaranteed not to fade. We will send you a package each of Turkey Red, Green, Wine, Rose, Medium-Brown and Orange Cotton dyes, or 6 pkgs. any colors you name for 40c. Single pkg. 10c. Sample cards and catalogue FREE. Agents wanted. W. CUSHING & CO., Box 45 Foxcroft, Me.

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TREES for Spring Planting. Apple, Pear, Plum and other varieties. The Monarch Plum, Bourgeat Quince, finest grower, best yet introduced. Japan Plums, Crosby Peach and small fruits. Very fine stock. Our Catalogue sent free, send for it. Fred. E. Young, Nurseryman, Rochester, N. Y.

PRETTIEST BOOK EVER PRINTED. FREE SEED Cheap as dirt by oz. and lb. One Cent a pkg. UP, if rare. Cheap, pure, best, 1,000,000 extras. Beautiful Illustrated Catalogue free. R. H. SHUMWAY, Rockford, Ill.



SEEDS GIVEN AWAY

FOR TRIAL. I have found that the best way to advertise good Seeds is to give away a sample for trial. If you will send me a 2-cent stamp to pay postage, I will mail free one package, your selection, of either Cabbage, Carrot, Celery, Cucumber, Lettuce, Musk or Water Melon, Onion, Parsnip, Pepper, Pumpkin, Radish, Spinach, Squash Tomato Turnip or of Flower Seeds—Aster, Balsam, Celosia, Carnation, Mignonette, Pansy, Phlox, Poppy, Sweet Peas, Zinnia, or Verbena, and one of my 1894 Catalogues. Under any circumstances do not buy your Seeds until you see it, for I can save you money. Over 200,000 people say my seeds are the cheapest and best. I have earliest vegetables on record. Discount and large prizes to agents, 50 cents worth of Seeds free with \$1.00 order. Write to-day. F. B. MILLIS, Box 22, Rose Hill, N. Y.

Mention this paper.



A Perfect Wonder. The Best Tomato in the World and just what everyone wants. It is extremely early, bears abundantly of the finest flavored, bright red tomatoes and is distinguished from all others by its tree form, standing erect and requiring no support at all. No one who has a garden should be without it.

MAY'S PEERLESS CUCUMBER

A Superb Variety of the finest quality. Enormously productive. Grows about ten inches long, and is unequalled for slicing.

OUR FAMOUS PRIZE LETTUCE

It beats them all. Very crisp and tender. Stands a long time before running to seed.

We will send postpaid, a packet each of Extra Early Tomato, Peerless Cucumber, Prize Lettuce, May's 25c. Certificate, and our Illustrated Bargain Catalogue (worth dollars to every buyer) of Seeds, Fruits and Plants, containing Colored Plates, painted from nature, and thousands of illustrations, all for only 10c.

MAMMOTH TOMATO FREE

To every person sending 10c. for the above Tomato Collection and giving us the names and addresses of three or more of their friends who purchase Seeds, Plants or Fruits, we will add, free, one packet of Mammoth Tomato, a magnificent variety of enormous size, often weighing 3 lbs. each.

This is the most liberal offer ever made by a reliable Seedsmen, and no one should fail to take advantage of it.

MAY & CO. Seedsmen & Florists, St. Paul, Minn.

THE EVILS OF INTEMPERANCE

Illustrated by the Adventures of a Small Boy and a Horse.



No. 1.—"Gee up, there, Old Charlie."

(See No. 2, on page 14.)

Vick's Floral Guide, 1894,

The Pioneer Catalogue of Vegetables and Flowers.

Contains 112 pages 8 x 10 1/2 inches, with descriptions that describe, not mislead; illustrations that instruct, not exaggerate.

The cover is charming in harmonious blending of water color prints in green and white, with a gold background—a dream of beauty. 32 pages of Novelties printed in 8 different colors. All the leading novelties and the best of the old varieties. These hard times you cannot afford to run any risk. Buy HONEST GOODS where you will receive FULL MEASURE. It is not necessary to advertise that the harvest pays. A very little spent for proper seed will save grocer's and doctor's bills. Many concede Vick's Floral Guide the handsomest catalogue for 1894. If you love a fine garden send address now, with 10 cents, which may be deducted from first order.



ROCHESTER, N. Y. JAMES VICK'S SONS.

NOVELTIES.

Branching Aster, (Often sold for Chrysanthemum.) Hibiscus, Sunset, Dahlia, Ethel Vick, Large Morning Glories, Double Anemone, Charmer Pea, Maggie Murphy and other Potatoes.

GIRLS

Make money, and lots of it, as agents for our journal. Light, gentele work. Earn your new dresses, new cloaks, your holiday money, and be independent. Success sure. We pay the largest cash commission offered by any publishers. Be sure to write to-day to FARM AND FIRESIDE, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

Our Sunday Afternoon.

ONE STITCH.

One stitch dropped as the weaver drove
His nimble shuttle to and fro,
In and out, beneath, above,
Till the pattern seems to bud and grow,
As if the fairies had helping been.
And the one stitch dropping pulled the next
stitch out,

And a weak place in the fabric stout,
And the perfect pattern was marred for eye,
By the one small stitch that was dropped that day.

One small life in God's great plan,
How futile it seems as the ages roll,
Do what it may, or strive how it can,
To alter the sweep of the infinite whole!
A single stitch in an endless web;
A drop in the ocean's flow and ebb;
But the pattern is rent where the stitch is lost,
Or marred where the tangled threads have crossed;
And each life that fails of the true intent
Mars the perfect plan that its master meant.

—Susan Coolidge.

MR. MOODY IN CHICAGO.

PEOPLE who ask the question, "Is Christianity played out?" may perhaps be helped to its solution by the following extract from an article on "Chicago," by

Dr. A. J. Gordon:

Mr. Moody estimates that from 30,000 to 40,000 people have been reached by his special Sunday evangelistic services. This multiplied by seven days easily foots up about 200,000 brought weekly within reach of the gospel. Every good opening for the gospel is readily seized. When Forepaugh's great circus tent had been set up in the city, Mr. Moody tried to secure it for Sunday. He was granted the use of it for a Sabbath morning service, but as the manager expected Sunday in Chicago to be a great harvest day, he reserved the tent on the afternoon and evening for his own performance. Fifteen thousand people came to hear the simple gospel preached and sung at the morning service. The circus, however, was so poorly attended in the afternoon and evening that Sunday exhibitions were soon abandoned. More than that, the manager said he had never been in the habit of giving performances on Sunday, and should not attempt it again, and he offered, if Mr. Moody would appoint an evangelist to travel with him, to open his tent thereafter on Sundays for gospel meetings and be responsible for all expenses. It was the same with the theaters. At first they declined to allow religious services on Sunday. Their performances on that day not having proved as successful as they anticipated, now Mr. Moody can hire almost any he wishes to secure.—*Christian Commonwealth*.

CIRCULATION OF THE BIBLE.

The sale of the Bible has gone on through the ages and over the religious world. Besides the circulation of private parties, the distribution of the Bible by the forty or fifty Bible societies is immense. Since 1804 the leading societies of England and America have distributed 203,000,000 copies of the whole Bible or parts of it. The American Bible Society alone has distributed 55,500,000 copies.

The distribution last year ran up to 400,900 Bibles, besides 370,700 Testaments and 141,000 separate books. The issues of British and foreign are still larger. The American society prints in fifty languages and dialects, and the British in two hundred.—*Zion's Herald*.

THE CHINESE POSTAL SYSTEM.

The Chinese have no governmental postal system, and letters are transported by means of so-called "letter-shops." These are somewhat like our express stations, as packages are also sent, and both letters and packages are insured and registered, and charges are in proportion to the distance to be carried. There are said to be nearly two hundred of these letter-shops in Shanghai alone, which send out employees to work up custom. Foreign letters are conveyed from China to other countries by the postal systems of the latter, consuls being considered as postmasters for their own countries.—*Public Opinion*.

A SPLENDID FREE OFFER.

We have the best and surest remedy in all the world for the speedy and permanent cure of Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Biliousness, Constipation, Liver Complaint, Sick Headache, Nervous Debility, Rheumatism, and even Consumption in its early stages. We will gladly send a valuable free trial package post-paid to any reader of this paper who will send us his or her name and address. If it does not do what we claim the loss is ours not yours. Write to-day. Address

EGYPTIAN DRUG CO., 29 Park Row, New York.

DON'T.

Don't snub a boy because his home is plain and unpretending. Abraham Lincoln's early home was a log cabin.

Don't snub a boy because he wears shabby clothes. When Edison, the great inventor, first entered Boston, he wore a pair of yellow linen breeches in the depth of winter.

Don't snub a boy because of the ignorance of his parents. Shakspere, the world's poet, was the son of a man who was unable to write his own name.

Don't snub a boy because he chooses a humbly trade. The author of "Pilgrim's Progress" was a tinker.

Don't snub a boy because of physical disability. Milton was blind, and Kitto was deaf.

Don't snub a boy who seems dull or stupid. Hogarth, the celebrated painter and engraver, was slow at learning and did not develop as soon as most boys.

Don't snub a boy because he stutters. Demosthenes, the greatest orator of Greece, overcame a harsh and stammering voice.

Don't snub any one. Not alone because they may far outstrip you in the race of life, but because it is neither kind nor right nor Christian.—*Christian Advocate*.

LED THROUGH OUR MISTAKES.

God often leads us into paths of his own choosing through our mistakes. "A short time ago," says a minister, "I bought a ticket intending to take the next train for a certain place. A train came into the station at the hour when my train was to leave. I entered it, but soon learned, when it was too late, that it was the wrong train for me. My regrets were unspeakable. I severely chided myself for not making inquiry as to whether or not it was the train I ought to have taken. I went on that train thirteen miles, and got off. Then I asked God to tell me what was the meaning of my seeming mistake. After praying half an hour, light broke into my mind. I was moved to go from there to see a friend seven miles distant and off the railroad. While spending a few days there, an important letter was forwarded to me, which caused me to go to another place before returning home, where my service was specially needed. As soon as I received that letter I saw plainly that God had led me, through my mistake, to a place of duty, and I also got the whole benefit of my ticket besides."—*Christian Age*.

NO COUNTERFEIT INFIDELS.

"Did you ever see a counterfeit bank-note?"

"Yes."

"Why was it counterfeited?"

"Because the genuine note was worth counterfeiting."

"Did you ever see a scrap of brown paper counterfeited?"

"No."

"Why not?"

"Because it was not worth counterfeiting?"

"Did you ever see a counterfeit Christian?"

"Yes."

"Why was he counterfeited?"

"Because he was worth counterfeiting."

"Was he to blame for the counterfeit?"

"Of course not."

"Did you ever see a counterfeit infidel?"

"Why, no."

"Why not?"

"Ahem!"

We pass the above catechism along.

THE MARTYRDOM OF VICE.

The martyrs to vice far exceed the martyrs to virtue, both in endurance and numbers. So blinded are we by our passions that we suffer more to insure perdition than salvation. Religion does not forbid the rational enjoyments of life as sternly as avarice forbids them. She does not require such sacrifices of ease or ambition, or such renunciations of quiet, as pride. She does not murder sleep, like dissipation; or health, like intemperance; or scatter wealth, like extravagance or gambling. She does not imbitter life, like discord; or shorten it, like dueling, or harrow it, like revenge. She does not impose more vigilance than suspicion, more anxiety than selfishness, or half as many mortifications as vanity.—*Hannah More*.

The "Western Trail" is published quarterly by the CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC RAILWAY. It tells how to get a farm in the West, and it will be sent to you gratis for one year. Send name and address to "Editor Western Trail, Chicago," and receive it one year free. JOHN SEBASTIAN, G. P. A.

A MAN MISSING

Our offer on page 19 will miss the best thing of the year. Our Portfolio is a rare work of art, and is the next best thing to a visit to the World's Fair.

You Dye in 30 minutes

Turkey red on cotton that won't freeze, boil or wash out. No other will do. Package to color 2 lbs., by mail, 10 cts.; 6, any color—for wool or cotton, 40c. Big pay Agents. Write quick. Mention this paper. FRENCH DYE CO., Vassar, Mich.

HANDY COBBLER COMPLETE SHOE

and Harness Kit for home use. Great time and money saver. Articles separate cost \$6. Price 26 articles boxed, 20 lbs. \$3. No. 2 without extra harness tools, 22 articles, 17 lbs. \$2. Catalogue free. Agents wanted. In order to give R. R. or Exp. station and name this paper. KUHN & CO., Moline, Ill.

WE CANNOT SPARE

healthy flesh — nature never burdens the body with too much sound flesh. Loss of flesh usually indicates poor assimilation, which causes the loss of the best that's in food, the fat-forming element.

Scott's Emulsion

of pure cod liver oil with hypophosphites contains the very essence of all foods. In no other form can so much nutrition be taken and assimilated. Its range of usefulness has no limitation where weakness exists.

Prepared by Scott & Bowne, Chemists, New York. Sold by all druggists.

Beeman's Pepsin Gum.

CAUTION.—See that the name Beeman is on each wrapper.

The Perfection of Chewing Gum and a Delicious Remedy for Indigestion. Each tablet contains one grain Beeman's pure pepsin. Send 5 cents for sample package.

THE BEEMAN CHEMICAL CO., 39 Lake St., Cleveland, O. Originators of Pepsin Chewing Gum.

High

Arm

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2 Years

15-16

\$17.50

buys \$50 Arlington King machine, \$14 buys \$10 Arlington King, \$12 buys \$35 High Arm Gem machine, we sell all makes and styles, from cheapest \$7.95 to best Arlington King, \$17.50. We take all risks, pay freight, ship anywhere on 30 days free trial in any home without asking one cent in advance; machine to be returned at our expense if unsatisfactory. All attachments free. WORLD'S FAIR MEDALS AWARDED. Over 100,000 now in use. Buy direct from factory. Save agents large profits. Catalogue and testimonials free. Write at once. Address (in full) CASH BUYERS' UNION, 158-164 W. Van Buren St., Dept. B 24, Chicago, Ill.

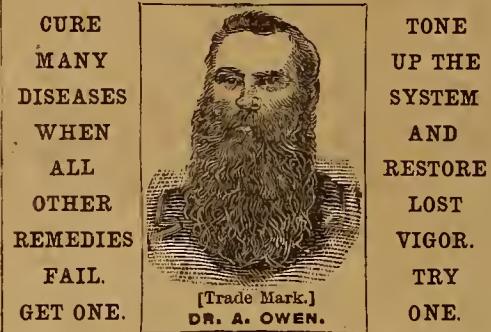
SEND A SLIP OF PAPER the size of your finger and 10 cents in Silver and I will mail you one of these Solid Rolled Gold Rings and my Catalogue of Rings, Emblems, Watchess and Novelties for agents to sell. \$1.00 an hour easily made. Address C. E. MARSHALL, Lockport, N.Y.



No. 2.—"Now you can drink all you want to."

(See No. 3, on page 15.)

THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT AND APPLIANCES FOR MEN AND WOMEN



A GENUINE CURRENT OF ELECTRICITY

Is generated in a battery on the belt, and can be applied to any part of the body. The current can be made mild or strong as the case may require, and is absolutely under control of the wearer at all times.

OUR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

Contains fullest information regarding the cure of Acute, Chronic and Nervous Diseases, with Testimonials with portraits of people who have been cured, Price List and Cuts of Belts and Appliances, and how to order, published in English, German, Swedish and Norwegian Languages. This catalogue will be mailed to any address on receipt of six cents postage.

THE OWEN Electric Belt and Appliance Co.

Main Office and Only Factory,

THE OWEN ELECTRIC BELT BUILDING, 201-211 STATE ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

The Largest Electric Belt Establishment in the World.



THIS MACHINE FOR \$14. FREIGHT PRE-PAID.

We now offer for the next sixty days this elegant Oxford High Arm Improved Singer sewing machine—perfect—reliable, finely finished, adapted to light and heavy work, self threading Cylinder Shuttle, Self Setting Needle, complete set of the latest Steel Attachments, cabinet work best of walnut or oak, each machine warranted for ten years, safe delivery guaranteed and will sell a few at this extremely low price, \$14, freight prepaid, or will ship machine on thirty days' trial, subject to approval and examination for \$15. When cash in full accompanies order for one of these machines if it is not satisfactory in every respect, do the work any family sewing machine can do, we bind ourselves upon the return of machine to refund all money. Where can you buy on better terms? Do not let this opportunity of a life time pass if you are in need of a first class sewing machine. Cut this out and send it to us to-day with your order. Our large catalogue, showing the machines awarded Premium Medal at the World's Fair, Chicago, sent free to any address.

OXFORD MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 340 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO.

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Publishers FARM AND FIRESIDE, Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, O.

Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Tanning Skins.—C. A. N., Rapid City, S. Dak. Read answers to queries in January 15th issue.

Lard-oil.—B. A. F., Port Byron, Ill. Lard-oil is obtained from cold hog's fat by subjecting it to great pressure.

Cement for Cast-iron.—J. H. E., Milan, O. For cementing together two pieces of iron, apply litharge and glycerin stirred to a paste.

Lawn.—O. F. H., New Castle, Pa., writes: "I have a new lawn that I wish to sow in grass. It was sown last summer, but on account of dry weather the seed did not come up very well. When would be the best time to seed it again, without disturbing the grass that came up?"

REPLY.—Reseed the lawn early in the spring. A light raking with a fine rake will not injure the grass. Then sow the seed and follow with a lawn-roller.

Bean Growing.—W. E. B., Elma, Iowa, writes: "Please inform me how to raise white beans, what kind of soil is best, when to plant, best variety for market, etc. How will they do on newly-broken prairie?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Articles on bean growing have frequently appeared in these columns. White beans will grow on almost any ordinary farm soil. Need not be rich, but should be in fairly good condition for farm crops. Plant in rows thirty-two or thirty-six inches apart, so that plants will stand about six inches in the row. Use Marrowfat, Medium or Kidney, according to the demands of your market. Pull when ripe; cure and thresh, and thoroughly clean, picking over by hand if necessary.

Onion Seed for Nebraska Highlands.—C. A. B., Gering, Neb., wants to know where he can get onion seed that will do well in the high altitude four hundred and fifty miles west of Omaha. Onions usually produce scallions, but make a large growth.

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—I think eastern onion seed, if of first-class quality, will be just as liable to make good onions as western. The trouble seems to be, with your onions as well as with your celery, that your summer climate is too hot and dry. The only hope I can hold out to you for success with onions is the adoption of the new method of growing plants under glass and transplanting to open ground at the beginning of spring, and for success with celery, on the new or old plan, by providing half shade and plenty of water for your plants. Try the Prizetaker onion.

Spawn of the New Mushroom—Tuberous-rooted Chervil.—E. K. C., Morris Ranch, Texas, writes: "Where can I get spawn of the new mushroom, Agaricus subrufescens?—I have twice tried to raise tuberous-rooted chervil, and have failed. The catalogues say it should be planted in the fall."

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—The new mushroom wants warm weather and plenty of moisture. It may do well in your climate. I am keeping spawn in dormant beds over winter, for spring use. You can get spawn of F. Boulon, Sea Cliff, Long Island, New York.—The reason of your failure with the tuberous-rooted chervil probably was due to the seed. This keeps its vitality for a very short time only, and must either be sown as soon as ripe, or kept in sand during the winter, out of the reach of frost. I do not know as the sowing in late fall would answer in your climate. It would not here.

About Bone and Potash.—D. K. H., Geary, Pa., writes: "Is S. C. rock and kainite a good combination for potatoes, or would ammonia be necessary also? What form of potash is cheapest? How much of it should be put to the acre for wheat and clover? Would one half kainite and one half S. C. rock be a good proportion for corn and potatoes?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH.—Usually we want some form of nitrogen in our potato fertilizers. Muriate is the cheapest form of potash, but neither this nor kainite is safe to use for potatoes, except in small quantities, or a year or so ahead of planting. The best form to use for this crop is the sulphate of potash. To supply nitrogen, you may use sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda, one or both. Use only a third as much sulphate of potash (if high grade) as bone. This combination you can use for almost any crop. Kainite, say five hundred pounds or more, can be safely used on clover in the fall.

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers.

Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

A Cryptorchis Calf.—J. V., Pella, Iowa. Since your calf is only three months old, it is possible that the wanting testicle will yet come down. If it does not, the same, very likely, got stuck in the inguinal canal, and it will not be so very difficult to get at it. All that is necessary is to have the operation performed by somebody familiar with the anatomy of the parts in question.

A Fistulous Hip.—F. J., Fandon, Neb. In a case like that described by you, the treatment, which at best is a tedious one, and requires a great deal of unceasing care and circumspection, depends in its details altogether upon the result of a careful examination, and more than that, hardly anybody but a competent and painstaking veterinarian could succeed in effecting a cure. Any fistule, no matter where, can be brought to healing only if the outer opening is lower, or made lower, than the bottom or end of the fistulous canal, and if the more or less callous walls of the fistulous canal, pervaded by colonies of bacteria, are either removed by means of the

knife or destroyed by suitable caustics. I cannot give a detailed description of the treatment and operation necessary, because the extent, depth and direction of the fistulous canal are unknown.

Pseudoparalysis in a Cow.—N. T. R., Durant, Miss. The weakness or apparent (pseudo) paralysis of your cow is due to being heavy with calf, and at the same time receiving too much voluminous food. If you feed smaller quantities of food, and what then may be lacking in quantity make up in quality, the trouble will disappear, at any rate as soon as the cow has calved, but probably before.

Founder.—T. L. W., Ellisville, Va. If your mare has been founded, and suffers from chronic founder, or laminitis, and in consequence has pumiced feet, you have no business to drive her on rough, frozen ground, or on any rough and hard or stony roads, at least not unless she has been properly shod. If you have a blacksmith familiar with the mechanism of a horse's foot, tell him to shoe your mare with good, well-fitting bar-shoes. There is no cure for chronic founder and already pumiced or degenerated feet.

Actinomycosis.—Mrs. B. H., Lakeview, Oregon, writes: "I have a valuable cow. About one year ago a lump formed on her jaw. It kept getting larger until it attained nearly the size of a gallon bucket, then it broke, discharged watery blood and appeared to itch. Her general health is good. She eats well."

ANSWER.—Your cow suffers from actinomycosis, or so-called "lumpy jaw." The treatment asked for has been repeatedly given in the columns of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and as it cannot be repeated in a few words, but requires a lengthy description, space forbids to repeat it just now. I therefore can at present only say this much: If the swelling is immovable, or firmly attached to the bone, the case is incurable, and the sooner the cow goes to the butcher the better.

Probably Actinomycosis.—O. S., Higdon, Ala. What you describe seems to be a case of actinomycosis; still, other tumors also occur below the ear in the parotid gland. As the tumor does not seem to grow much, and as the cow has no difficulty in masticating her food, it may be best to leave the tumor alone, and to see to it that the cow is fattened and ready to go to the butcher by the time her milk considerably decreases—say next fall. The treatment of actinomycosis has been repeatedly described in these columns. If the swelling complained of is a tumor of a different nature, only a very competent surgeon should be allowed to excise it, because the place where it is situated makes an excision somewhat dangerous, unless the operation is performed in a very skilful and careful manner.

Open Shoulders.—V. B., Rushmore, Minn., writes: "I have a horse with open shoulders. Please tell me what to do for it. He has been so for a year. His shoulders are tender."

ANSWER.—I suppose you mean sore shoulders. First, give the animal rest, keep the sores perfectly clean, apply, say twice a day, some good antiseptic, for instance, a three-per-cent solution of creolin (Pearson), or a mixture of iodofrom and tannic acid (1:3). After the sores have been brought to healing, and you desire to work the animal again, see to it that the collar not only fits well, but also that there is no undue pressure on the parts that were sore. Don't use pads, etc., again, because by using them all the pressure is concentrated on the sore spots. Furthermore, see to it that the collar where it comes in contact with the skin of the horse is perfectly smooth and always scrupulously clean. If you follow the above directions you will have no more trouble.

An Offensive Discharge From the Nose.—R. H. L., Southwest City, Mo., writes: "What ails my mare? There is a continual and very offensive discharge from her left nostril. It has been running for two months. The mare looks well, eats and drinks regularly."

ANSWER.—If you will ascertain and let me know where the discharge has its source, or comes from, or give me sufficient other data upon which with reasonable certainty a diagnosis can be based, I may be able to comply with your request, but not otherwise. Discharges, and offensive discharges from the nose, too, may have various sources. They may come from the lungs, from any part of the respiratory passages, from the frontal or maxillary sinuses, from the concha and the system of the nasal cavity, and even from a curious tooth, if a fistulous opening extends from its alveole, or socket, into the maxillary sinus or into the nasal cavity. They may be due to an existing morbid growth, or to an ulcerative process affecting bone or cartilage. Have your horse examined by a competent person.

It is not Black-leg.—C. B. B., Husted, Col. What you describe is not black-leg, or symptomatic anthrax, but what it is—very likely several different diseases—does not appear from your letter. Black-leg, or symptomatic anthrax, once fully developed, is almost invariably fatal, and if you had had to deal with that disease, you never would have succeeded in saving ten out of sixteen—you would not have saved one out of a hundred. Its most characteristic symptom consists in suddenly appearing and rapidly increasing crepitating swellings, usually on the extremities above the knee or hock, or in comparatively rare cases on the body. It is a bacteric, and consequently infectious disease. To give a complete description is forbidden by want of space. It is best prevented by keeping young cattle away from such places of which it is known that black-leg is contracted, and especially if conditions are such that the animals will get small, insignificant sores on the lower extremities. As a rule, stuhle-fields and fields of young, green grain, especially if the ground is wet and inclined to be muddy, are the most dangerous.

Scrotal Fistule.—J. B., Gladstone, Manitoba, writes: "What is the best thing to do for a colt which got hooked when about eight months old (he is now one and one half years old)? The skin was torn open five or six inches in a line with the testicles upward. After a few weeks it healed up. Two or three months after this it broke out into a sore, and has been so ever since. He was running on the prairie all summer, and during that time the sore took the appearance of a wart about the size of one's fist. When I got him in this fall, the lump had come off, leaving a raw sore. It does not discharge or bleed, except when I clean it, then it bleeds a little."

ANSWER.—Your colt can be cured only by an operation which includes castration. If I exactly knew which parts have been injured, and where the fistule terminates and leads to, I could tell you how to proceed, and how to perform the operation. As I do not, the best advise I can give you is to have the operation, if possible, performed by a skilled veterinarian; or if none is available, to ask your family physician to be present, and to super-

intend the operation. If the case is not too urgent, it may be best to wait until the weather gets a little milder; but if the degeneration is rapidly progressing, it may be best to operate at once, because I have no doubt that you possess means, or can make arrangements to protect the animal against too severe exposure.

An Exostosis.—G. G., Rolla, Mo., writes: "I have a four-year-old cow that was hit on the face, just below the right eye, in July last, which caused a large lump to form. At one time it was as large as a man's wrist and about four inches long, but is some smaller now. Can I put anything on it to take it off?—Also tell me how to cure horses of bots or pinworms."

ANSWER.—What you complain of may, and may not, be caused as you state. In a vast majority of cases such enlargements in the bones of the head of cattle are caused by actinomycetes, which have found an entrance through the alveole of a tooth, and unless of very recent origin, are incurable. But even if the enlargement in your case is merely an exostosis, not caused by any morbid process originating in the alveole of a tooth, or in a maxillary sinus, it may not lead to serious consequences, and may in time grow somewhat smaller, but it cannot be removed. Bots and pinworms are entirely different. The former are the larvae of the hot-fly and the latter is a small intestinal worm, *Oxyuris anulata*, which is less than two inches in length, about one twelfth to one eighth of an inch thick, and inhabits the large intestines of horses. Bots cannot be removed, but pinworms may be induced to leave, if injections with raw linseed-oil are made.

All Kinds of Questions.—J. C., Renton, Wash., writes: "(1) What is the best medicine to give a cow in the form of a blister? (2) What makes a cow in the last stages of milk-fever lie flat on her stomach, with her hind legs straight out behind? Our ranch is bottom land, and grows luxuriant feed, which keeps the cows in high condition the year around. (3) What is the best drink to give a cow before calving, in your opinion? I have lost four cows in about nine months."

ANSWER.—(1) A blister (vesicant or vesicator) is made use of to cause inflammation in the skin to serve various purposes, but is not in form in which medicines are administered to animals. (2) I never saw a cow in that position, neither in the last nor in any other stage of milk (puerperal) fever, and doubt whether you ever observed it, unless it be that violence has been used, or the helpless animal has been dragged into such a position. (3) Water. If your milch cows die of puerperal fever, my advice would be to prevent that disease, by keeping all cows that are good milkers, and very good in condition as to flesh, on light diet during the last four or six weeks before and the first three weeks after calving; to leave the calves with them for at least ten to fourteen days, and to keep the premises scrupulously clean.

May be Farcy and Glanders.—A. B. J., Oberlin, Kan., writes: "I have a mule that has been ailing since September. At first there appeared small lumps on his under jaw-bone that seemed stuck fast there, and also on the side of his body. For these I treated him with liniment and tonic powders, and he seemed to recover, until I noticed the swelling of the sheath, and similar hard lumps appeared on same, and these would break open. For this I gave the tonic powders, and washed him with carbolic-acid water. He recovered from this, and I let him into a very good pasture, thinking to give him full benefit of good feed and rest until needed for spring work. Two weeks ago I found him suffering from heavy discharges from the nose. It has become heavy and thick, yellowish, mixed with blood, and so foul smelling that no one can stand near him more than a few minutes at a time. I have for this given him sulphite of soda in shape of drench, as he will not eat his food when mixed with medicine. His fore legs swell badly as far down as the knee, and he is losing flesh. Tell me what to do, or if I am treating him right. I am very much afraid that he has glanders. If I keep him in one end of my barn, separated by eight or ten feet from the other horses, do you think it dangerous? I am a regular subscriber to the FARM AND FIRESIDE, and should be thankful for an answer in its columns by the 15th of this month's issue."

ANSWER.—What you describe looks like farcy and glanders combined. I would therefore advise you to inform your state veterinarian, if there is such an official in Kansas, or else have your mule by all means examined by a competent veterinarian. If this is done, and there should yet be any doubt, ask the veterinarian to procure some mallein, and subject the animal to the mallein test, which will tell the tale. You asked to have your inquiry answered in the issue of January 15th. It reached me on January 6th, and the correspondence for January 15th was sent off on December 25th, so your request could not be complied with.

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ANSWER.

Our Miscellany.

GREAT improvement will be found in tea and coffee if they are kept in glass jars instead of tin.

ALL ancient Egyptian paintings were executed according to a code of rules laid down by the priesthood.

THE drink curse costs us over \$800,000,000 yearly. Errors of currency or tariff are a feather's weight beside it.

YOU must believe in yourself and then make the markets believe in you. Make a name for yourself. Toot your own horn.—*J. H. Hale.*

For safety in driving use a Springsteen Bit. 75 cents mailed. F. W. FLOYD, Detroit, Mich.

Look out for the man who wants to sell you the "right" to get more butter out of milk than the cow put in it. Take the right to get out all there is in it, but pay no royalty for doing it.

THE railroads in the United States have cost nine billion dollars. The money spent for rum in ten years would buy every railroad in our land and pay six per cent interest on the original cost.

In several respects China may be called the antipode of America. Its people drink their tea cold and their wines warm, wear white for mourning; and a pupil, when reciting, turns his back to his teacher.

THE Grange exists to-day for purposes that should have the approbation of all good citizens, and the hearty co-operation of the class from whose ranks its membership is recruited.—*Vermont Watchman.*

THERE are various groups among the anarchists, but they are agreed in one fundamental and most dangerous doctrine; namely, that man has no moral right to exercise authority over his fellows. To the exercise of authority of some men over other men they trace the social and individual evils of our time.—*Harper's Weekly.*

THE next universal exposition opens in Antwerp on May 5th of this year. The next after that, so far as at present known, will be the Paris exhibition of 1900. The municipal council of St. Petersburg makes a proposal for an international exhibition to be held in that city in 1903, to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of the capital by Peter the Great.

IT is maintained very stoutly by expert electricians that the storage battery is, after all, a success for commercial work; that the new processes for manufacturing them have cheapened their cost, and that in train lighting they are especially efficient and economical. It is estimated that eighty-five dollars per horse-power is the annual cost of the accumulator.—*Inventive Age.*

The only way to farm successfully nowadays is to thoroughly understand the nature of the soil and how to fertilize it to produce the largest crops at the least expense. Fertilizing is really the key-note of progress, and any new light obtainable on this subject is appreciated by intelligent farmers. A new, instructive and readable little book has just been issued by the Scientific Fertilizer Co., of Pittsburg, Pa., treating the fertilizer problem from the standpoint of advanced science. It is entitled "Scientific Fertilizers, How and Why They Act." It is well worthy of careful reading, and we would recommend our friends to send for a copy. It is mailed free by the company.

THE Javanese musical instruments are made mostly of bamboo. They also played upon a pipe, or whistle, which was about three feet long and six inches across. This sounded like the hollow roar of a lion. Another was a bundle of tubes of different lengths, which covered the small boy who carried it like a big saddle. A log hewed out with two strings stretched across it served as a drum. A zither of sixteen strings and a mandolin of two completed their outdoor band, while inside one could hear other music made by gongs of wonderfully pure and beautiful tone.

A WONDERFUL GIFT.

A silver egg was once presented to a Saxon princess. By a secret spring the egg was opened and disclosed a yolk of gold. By another spring the golden yolk was opened, and there stood a beautiful bird. By pressing the bird's wings its breast was opened, revealing a jeweled crown. And even within the crown, reached like the rest by a spring, was a ring of diamonds which fitted the finger of the princess.

How many a promise there is in God's word which contains a promise—silver around the gold, gold around the jewels. Yet how many of God's children ever find their way far enough among the springs to discover the crown of rejoicing or the ring of peace?—*St. Louis Republic.*

FREE MUSIC FOR ALL.

One hundred and fifty-six songs, words and music, sent free to any person sending us ten cents for three month's trial subscription to the FIRESIDE GEM, a bright sixteen page monthly story paper. All the latest and most popular songs will be found in this collection, including After the Ball, Comrades, Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-ay, and one hundred and fifty-three others. Every reader of this paper should be sure and take immediate advantage of this offer and send the required amount by first mail. You will be pleased. Address, The Fireside Gem, Waterville, Me., Box 124.

IRREVERENT PRAYERS.

It is said that an officer once went up to the ruler of the English Commonwealth, after he had finished a prayer in the presence of his troops, and said to him roughly:

"I know now the God you believe in! He is only a bigger and stronger Oliver Cromwell."

Whether this bold declaration was true or not, there is reason to believe from many of the sermons which have come to us from those early days that some of our forefathers, with their narrow lives and intense personal affections and prejudices, were apt to regard their Maker merely as a larger and more powerful self, very much as they did their king or the chief of their clan.

The chief of the Leslies is said to have prayed before a battle: "Be on our side! An' gin ye canna be on our side, aye lay low a bit, an' ye'll see tha carles get a hidin' that must please ye."

An old Covenanter, who ruled his household with a rod of iron, is said to have prayed in all sincerity at family worship:

"Oh, Lord, hae a care o' Rob, for he is on the great deep, an' thou holdest it in the hollow o' thy hand. And hae a care o' Jamie, for he hae gone to fight the enemies o' his country, an' the outcome o' the battle is wi' thee. But ye need na fash yersel' wi' wee Willy, for I hae him here, an' I'm cawpable o' lookin' after him myself."

There was no irreverence meant in these petitions, however much of vanity or of misconception of God may have been exhibited in the language used.

Cavalier and Roundhead, Fenian and Orangeman, Bonapartist and Legitimist have alike invoked the aid of the ruler of the universe, with a passionate faith that he was a partisan with strong, bitter prejudices like themselves.

We have learned to offer our petitions with at least more of a semblance of reverence; but how many of us endow the Almighty with our own opinions and prejudices? And how often we forget to ask his help, until we find we are not able to help ourselves!—*Youth's Companion.*

A SAVING TO THE FARMER.

Those of our readers who are using Neponset Waterproof Fabrics do not need to be reminded of their many good qualities. They know that there is nothing that can so effectively protect houses and all outbuildings from cold and rain as these fabrics.

The farmer finds it very economical to use them, for he knows that a horse requires less care and food if warmly housed, a cow will give more milk and need less grain if she stands in a comfortable stable, a hen will lay eggs in zero weather if only the house that protects her is made warm by using these fabrics.

Quite recently Messrs. Bird & Son have placed on the market a Neponset Carpeting, of the order of oil-cloth, but having a very solid back and possessing great wearing qualities. This Neponset Carpeting is made in beautiful colorings and the cost of it is so low that it is sure to be in great demand. Neponset Carpet for a room 9x12 costs about \$2.50.

We recommend your sending for samples, which will be mailed you free, if you mention this paper.

FOREMOST MAN IN ALL THE WORLD.

Lincoln believed in the sovereignty of the people—in the supremacy of the nation—in the territorial integrity of the republic.

Lincoln assumed the leading part in the greatest drama ever acted upon the stage of a continent. His criticisms of military movements, his correspondence with his generals and others on the conduct of the war show that he was at all times master of the situation—that he was a natural strategist, that he appreciated the difficulties and advantages of every kind, and that in "the still and mental" field of war he stood the peer of any man beneath the flag.

In passion's storm he stood unmoved, patient, just and candid. In his brain there was no cloud and in his heart no hate. He longed to save the South as well as North, to see the nation one and free. He lived until the end was known. He lived until the confederacy was dead—until Lee surrendered, until Davis fled, until the doors of Libby prison opened, until the republic was supreme.

He lived until Lincoln and liberty were united forever. He lived until there remained for him nothing to do so great as he had done. What he did was worth living for, worth dying for.

He lived until he stood in the midst of universal joy, beneath the outstretched wings of peace—the foremost man in all the world. And then the horror came. Night fell on noon. The savior of the republic, the breaker of chains, the liberator of millions, he who had "assured freedom to the free," was dead.

Upon his brow fame placed the immortal wreath. For the first time in the history of the world a nation bowed and wept. The memory of Lincoln is the strongest, tenderest tie that binds all hearts together now and holds all states beneath a nation's flag.—*Extract from Col. Ingersoll's Eulogism of Abraham Lincoln.*

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.

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OWING to the hard times there has been dumped on the market an extra big lot of odd pieces of silk and satin that are just what ladies want for crazy patch-work. We were fortunate in securing them cheap, and will give one of our special PANIC PACKAGES to any one sending 10c. for a three months' subscription to CONFORT, the Prize Story Magazine. Three lots and an elegant piece of SILK PLISSÉ contain 33 square inches, together with five skeins of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors, all for 25c. postpaid; three 25c. lots for 65c., five for \$1.00.

A Cute Foot-Rest FREE.

Useful Ornaments are sought after all seasons of the year. People do not realize the quantities of goods that are sold through the mails. Inventors are daily trying to get up something to sell by mail that will be pretty, useful, and cheap. A pretty foot-rest could never be obtained at a low price before (they sell for \$1.00 each at the stores), but by getting up something that is turned out by machines in pretty colored durable goods, to be filled with cotton or any cheap or cast-off substance and then sewn up, we can now give a premium that will be welcome in every room in all the homes from Maine to California. It comes in the shape of a handbag or a pocket book. It is about 12x12 inches, and can always be placed for ornament when not in use by grandma or yourself or company as a Foot Rest. It will create untold merriment when lying in front of the fire, it is so life-like in shape and color. Although entirely new, \$57.396 have already been sold, and millions more will be in use before many months. Agents will find them great sellers, and should order at least a dozen to start with. To introduce, we will send a sample postpaid to any one sending 12c. for a three months' subscription to CONFORT. Two Rests and CONFORT 6 months for 25c.; five for 50c., one dozen, \$1.00; one Rest and 10c. for Remnants, 20c.; one Rest and 25c. lot Remnants, 25c.

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THE LATEST FAD.—Everyone of our readers should secure our Portfolio of Photographic Views of the World's Fair. See our offer on page 19.

Smiles.

DEFEAT.

She worked a pretty tidy
To help the church along;
It was a rosy poem,
It was a rosy song.

She said that twenty dollars
Should be about the price,
Because it was so dainty,
So flowerful and nice.

* * * * *
She bursts from wails of anguish
Into a flendish laugh,
Because they let it go for
A dollar and a half.

—Puck.

GIRL AND ENGINE.

THE following is a girl's description of how an engine is made. It is certainly very graphic, and might do as an account of a railroad wreck:

"You pour a lot of sand into a box, and throw a lot of old stoves and things into a fire, and empty the molten stream into a hole in the sand, and the men all yell, and it's awfully dirty and smoky. And then you pour it out and let it cool and pound it; and then you put it in a thing that goes round, and try to break it; then you screw it to a thing that goes back and forth, that you can ride on, and that scrapes it and it squeaks; then you put it in a thing that turns it round, and you take a chisel and cut it; then you put it in a thing that bores holes in it. Then you screw it together and paint it, and put steam in it, and it goes awfully; and they take it up in the drafting-room and draw a picture of it, and make one of wood just like it. And oh! I forgot—they have to make a boiler. One man gets inside and one gets outside, and they pound just terribly; and then they tie it to the other thing—and oh! you just ought to see it go."

IS THIS ENGLISH?

A rite suite little buoy, the sun of a kernel, with a rough round his neck, flew up the road as quick as a deer. After a thyme he stopped at a house and wrung the belle. His tow hurt him, and he kneaded wrest. He was two tired to raze his fair, pail face, and a feint mown of pane rose from his lips.

The made who heard the belle was about to pair a pare, but she through it down and ran with all her mite, for fear her guessed would not weight; but when she saw the little won, tiers stood in her eyes at the site. "Ewe poor deer!" Why do you lie hear? Are you dying?" "Know," he said, "I am feint." She boar him in her arms, as she aught, to a room where he might be quiet, and gave him bred and meet, held a cent bottle under his knous, until his choler, rapped him up warmly, gave him a suite dram from a viol, till at last he went fourth as hail as a young hoarse.

WHO WAS IT?

A prominent lecturer had been billed to appear in an eastern city. The hall was crowded, and stepping to the front of the platform, the chairman introduced the speaker of the evening as follows: "Ladies and gentlemen, we are to have a lecture on 'Fools,' by one of the most distinguished"—there was a long pause, for the chairman's inflections indicated that he had fulshed, and the audience roared with delight, so that it was some time before the sentence was concluded—men of Chicago." The lecturer, who is a ready wit, began his lecture when silence was at length restored by saying: "Ladies and gentlemen, I am not as great a fool as the chairman"—and here he stopped, apparently through with the sentence, while the audience again wildly applauded, finally concluded—"would have you think."

SPECIAL PRAYER.

"Uncle Josh," I said, "don't you believe in the efficacy of special prayer?"

"What you mean by special prayer?" asked Uncle Josh, picking a turkey feather off of his trousers.

"By special prayer I mean where you pray for an especial thing."

"Wal, now, Mister Perkins, dat depends. It depends a good deal on what yo' pray for."

"How is that, Uncle Josh?"

"Wal, I all'ays notice dat when I prays de Lord to seed one of Massa Shelby's turkeys to de ole man it don't come, but when I prays dat he'll send de ole man after de turkey my prayer is always answered."—Eli Perkins, "Wit and Humor."

A CHICAGO ROMANCE.

"You say you love me, James; but what guarantee have I that we shall be happy if we are married?"

"I'll give you my written consent to a divorce on demand."

And so they were married.

GOOD NEWS FOR SUFFERERS—CATARRH AND CONSUMPTION CURED.

Our readers who are victims of Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption, will be glad to know of the wonderful cures made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Broca Discovery. The New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, will send you this new treatment free for trial. Write to them. Give age and all particulars of your disease.

FUNNY EXPERIENCES OF LECTURERS.

A good reason is always very satisfactory. "A man gave me the best reason for a pass to-day that I ever heard," said Mr. Depew. "He came in and asked for a pass to Albany."

"On what ground do you request this courtesy?" I asked. "Why do you ask it?"

"Because," said the man hesitatingly, "because it will save me three dollars."

My friend, Bill Nye, tells me how he received a good reason from a hotel keeper down in Tennessee:

"You see," said Mr. Nye, "the hotel was bad and the feed was worse. It was so intolerable that I finally went to the landlord to complain. I said:

"Landlord, this is very bad feed you are giving us—tough meat and stale vegetables."

"Yes, it is pretty bad. They all say so, Mr. Nye."

"But you charge a good price—four dollars a day."

"Yes, 'tis a good price. I agree with you."

"Well, now, landlord," said Bill, "I should like to know what reason you've got for charging four dollars a day for such indifferent accomodations?"

"Well, now," said the landlord, looking at Mr. Nye from head to foot, "you surprise me, I took you to be a very bright man, Mr. Nye. You look like it. They paid you a hundred dollars for lecturing here to-night, and it seems funny that you should ask me such a foolish question."

"But I do ask it," said Nye, "and I should really like to have you answer it. Tell me, why do you charge so much—four dollars a day—for such feed?"

"Well, I'll tell you, Mr. Nye," said the landlord, leaning forward and putting one hand around his mouth. "I'll tell you confidentially. It is because—because I need the money!"

A STUNNING QUESTION.

Mr. Bennett is a bright and well-preserved old gentleman; but to his granddaughter Mabel he seems very old indeed. She had been sitting on his knee and looking at him seriously for some moments one day when she said:

"Grandpapa, were you in the ark?"

"Why, no, my dear!" gasped her astonished grandparent: Mabel's eyes grew large and round with astonishment.

"Then why weren't you drowned?" she asked.—*Youth's Companion*.

THE OBJECT PARTLY ATTAINED.

Kiljordan (giving it a vigorous kick)—"Boy, this is the third morning I've seen that old rubber boot lying on the sidewalk at this corner. What's your idea in keeping it there, anyhow?"

Bootblack—"I ain't got nothin' to do with it. The feller wot ruus this groc'ry store is keepin' tab on that boot. He says he's goin' to find out how many durn fools kicks it in one week."—*Chicago Tribune*.

A NOVEL INTRODUCTION.

"There is a young boy staying at our boarding-house," writes a correspondent, "who is a perfect little gentleman in his way. The other day he brought his sister in to dinner and gave her a general introduction somewhat as follows: 'Ladies and gentlemen, this is my sister.' Then he electrified the gathering by continuing: 'My sister, these are ladies and gentlemen!'"

WOMAN'S READY SYMPATHY.

Wearied father—"They say that no matter how one suffers, some one has suffered more. All the same they couldn't beat me in this business, for I have walked this child the entire night for fully six hours."

Mother (calmly)—"Yes, Henry dear; but suppose you lived up near the pole, where the nights are six months long?"

A POSSIBLE ATTRACTION.

Little girl—"Your sister is real pretty, isn't she?"

Little boy—"Guess not. I never noticed it."

Little girl—"Then what's the reason so many gentlemen keeps calling on her?"

Little boy—"Don't know. Maybe it's 'cause we haven't any piauo."—*Good News*.

IMPOSSIBLE CURE.

Bodkins—"Doctor, how can insomnia be cured?"

Doctor—"Well, the patient should count slowly and in a meditative manner 500, and then—"

Bodkins—"That's all very well, doctor; but our baby can't count."—*Life*.

LIMITATIONS OF LITERATURE.

Little boy—"What is your papa?"

Little girl—"He's a literary man."

"What's that?"

"He writes."

"What does he write?"

"Oh, he writes most everything 'cept checks."—*Good News*.

PRETTY VALENTINES FREE.

We are giving away a package of sweet pretty valentines to all who would like to take our Prize Story Magazine, *COMFORT*, on trial for the next three months. They are the regular *cupid darts* made up with Lithographic lace work. Send 6 cents to *COMFORT*, Box 209, Augusta, Maine, for trial subscription and we will include an assortment of Comics, postpaid.

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Recent Publications.

CURRENT COINS. By Dr. J. B. Naylor, who comes to us often under the pseudonym of S. Q. Lapius, is a book of poems presented in a continuous form as a story. Some of his poems have appeared in our columns from time to time. Price, \$1.25. By Hann & Adair, Columbus, Ohio.

A B C OF POTATO CULTURE. How to grow them in the largest quantity and of the finest quality, with the least expenditure of time and labor. Revised edition. Fully illustrated; 220 pages. Price, 40 cents, post-paid. Published by A. L. Root, Medina, Ohio.

BULBS AND TUBEROUS-ROOTED PLANTS. Their history, description, methods of propagation, and complete directions for their successful culture in the garden, dwelling and greenhouse. Profusely illustrated. By C. L. Allen, New York. Orange Judd Company, 1893. 320 pages, illustrated, 12mo, cloth, \$2.

HOW TO JUDGE A HORSE. By Captain F. W. Bach. A concise treatise as to the qualities and soundness of the horse, with chapters on training and driving. Fully illustrated. Price, \$1. Published by William R. Jenkins, New York.

OUR FARMING; or, how we have made a run-down farm bring both profit and pleasure. Potato, wheat and clover culture, tillage, tile drainage, manure savings, etc., treated independently from A to Z. Cloth, 367 pages, illustrated. Published by the Farmer Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

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LIVINGSTON AND THE TOMATO. Being the history of experiences in discovering the choice varieties introduced by him, with practical instructions for growers. Cloth, 175 pages. Published by A. W. Livingston's Sons, "True Blue" Seedsmen, Columbus, Ohio.

MY ARCTIC JOURNAL. A year among ice-fields and Eskimos. By Mrs. Josephine Peary. Everyone has heard something of the Peary expedition, and of this wonderful woman. In this book Mrs. Peary recounts her experiences of a twelve month spent on the shores of McCormick bay, midway between the Arctic circle and the north pole. The Eskimos with whom she came in contact belong to a little tribe of about three hundred and fifty individuals, completely isolated from the rest of the world. These people had never seen a white woman, and some of them had never beheld a civilized being. The book is highly entertaining and very instructive. It is beautifully printed, with a number of handsome half-tone cuts made from actual photographs. Published by the Contemporary Publishing Co., Philadelphia and New York.

BOOKKEEPING AT A GLANCE. By expert J. T. Brierley. A simple and concise method of practical bookkeeping. With instructions for the proper keeping of books of accounts and numerous explanations and forms used in a commercial business, showing an entire set of books based upon actual transactions; how to take off a trial balance sheet, and finally close and balance accounts; equation of payments; metric system of weights and measures. Table showing number of day, from any given date to any other date; interest—short method of calculating; grace on sight draft, United States and Canada; business law; checks, etc.; discount table; values of foreign coins, gold and silver; interest laws of United States; wages table; forms of notes and drafts; catechism of bookkeeping—being conversation between teacher and student. Containing 144 pages, size 5x2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches, bound in flexible leatherette, price, 50 cents; Russia, indexed, 75 cents. Excelsior Publishing House, 29 Beekman street, New York, N. Y.

HOW TO FRAME A HOUSE; or, balloon and roof framing. A book for the practical house-builder. Illustrated. \$1. Owen B. Magounis, 356 West 12th street, New York.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Plant Seed Co., St. Louis, Mo. A very complete catalogue from an old reliable house, Prairie State Incubator Co., Homer City, Pa.

Simplex Hatcher and Brooder. Simplex Hatcher Co., Quincy, Ill.

Descriptive catalogue of the Jewell Nursery Co., Lake City, Minn.

Forty-ninth annual catalogue of D. S. Morgan & Co., Brockport, N. Y. Reapers, mowers and other implements.

Retail list Kansas Seed House. F. Bartels & Co., Lawrence, Kan.

Price list of Lewis Roesch, Fredonia, N. Y., grape-vine specialist and general nurseryman.

Burpee's Farm Annual. W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa. A magnificent catalogue, embracing all lines of seeds, together with many novelties.

Bee-keeping in Dixie. Price list of bees, hives, etc. J. M. Jenkins, Wetumpka, Elmore county, Ala.

Poster and catalogue of pumps, haying tools, etc., made by F. E. Myers & Bro., Ashland, Ohio.

Circulars for Hunting's Automatic Distiller. An apparatus sold at a reasonable price for distilling water for domestic use. Dr. Nelson Hunting, Albany, N. Y.

List of Lincoln Pear Nursery. W. E. Jones & Son, Lincoln, Ill.

Catalogue and price list of American grape-vines, small fruit plants, etc. George S. Josselyn, Fredonia, N. Y.

Circulars of Krauser's Liquid Extract of Smoke, for smoking meats. E. Krauser & Bro., Milton, Pa.

Book of designs for ornamental parquetry, floors, walls and borders. The Interior Hardwood Co., Indianapolis, Ind.

List of Spaulding's select trees, plants, etc. Spaulding Nursery and Orchard Co., Spaulding, Ill.

Catalogue of E. H. Upson, Wilmot, Ind., proprietor of "The Gold Spike" fruit farm and poultry-yards.

Floral Gems, being the annual catalogue of McGregor Bros., Springfield, Ohio.

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No. 5.—"Stop it, or you'll burst, sure." (See No. 6, on page 20.)

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cannon in the world, strongest search-light in the world, highest wheel in the world, most extensive collection of paintings in the world, and a thousand and one other greatest things were there within an area of 633 acres, of which 250 acres were covered with buildings that alone cost Twenty-three Million Dollars. All this wealth of the earth and genius of mind was concentrated there to exemplify the imperial glories of our nation. Only the spirit and the pictures of this, the eighth and greatest wonder of the world, remain with us. The spirit will make our nation greater and all humanity better, while the pictures make a pictorial history that will tell the story to all the children of men.

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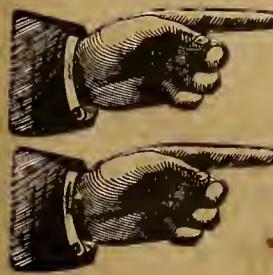
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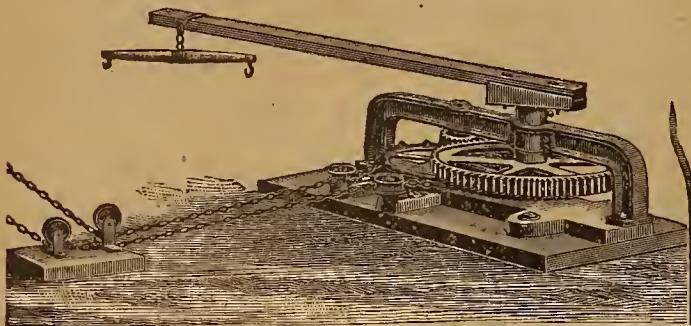
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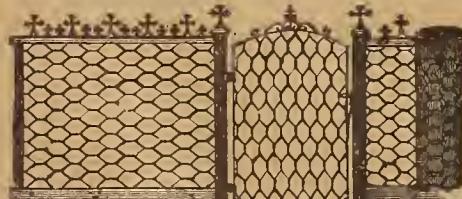
No. 6.—Whoa! Are you a horse or a balloon?"

(See first 5 numbers on inside pages.)



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OATS—WHITE SUPERIOR—These oats were awarded first medal from Indiana at World's Fair. They are of excellent quality; heavy croppers and will be sold very high this year, and we give our readers an opportunity of getting a start of these prize oats in advance by ordering this collection.

BEET—EARLY BLOOD TURNIP—Best beet grown for home use; round, good form; single tap root; flesh dark red; very sweet, fine-grained and tender.

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WATER-MELON—KOLB'S GEM—The leading variety with all growers; hybrid between Georgia Rattlesnake and scaly hark; flesh red, sweet and melting; the vines are very hardy and productive.

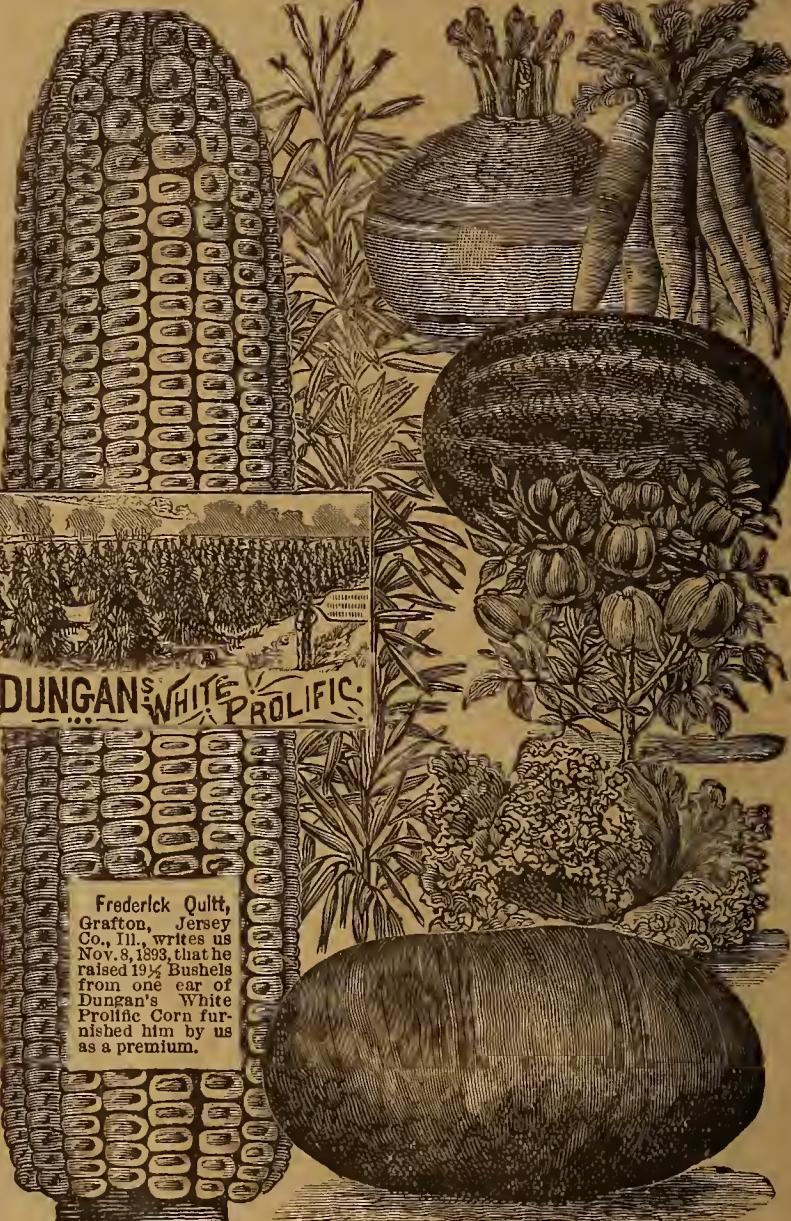
PEPPER—GOLDEN UPRIGHT—Produces the fruit upright on the stems, as shown in cut. The fruit is fully double the size of Golden Dawn; beautiful color golden, tinged with red where exposed to the sun; mild and well flavored.

LETTUCE—CALIFORNIA ALL HEART—Originated in California; no praise is too high for its merits; its superior does not exist; its handsome shape and appearance is well shown in our engraving.

POTATO—HUNTINGTON'S HOOSIER—Offered this year for the first time. Though it will be very high priced, we have secured from them enough to put one potato in each collection. It is a very early potato and of excellent quality, and will prove a valuable acquisition to your potato list.

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FARM & FIRESIDE

24 PAGES.

VOL. XVII. NO. 10.

EASTERN EDITION.

Entered at the Post-Office at Springfield, Ohio, as second-class mail matter.

FEBRUARY 15, 1894.

TERMS { 50 CENTS A YEAR.
24 NUMBERS.

INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS.

The Circulation of Farm and Fireside
this Issue (February 15th) is

300,000 COPIES.

The statement of the past three months is as follows:

November 15,	250,200
December 1,	500,000
" 15,	250,400
January 1,	300,200
" 15,	300,400
February 1,	400,000
A total of	2,001,200
Average per issue,	323,533

Estimating at the usual average of five readers to each copy, Farm and Fireside has

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Topics of the Time.

TARIFF BILL.

The Wilson, or administration, tariff bill passed the house by a decisive vote of 204 to 140. All Republican and seventeen Democratic members voted against it. The bill as passed differed in some particulars from the one reported by the committee on ways and means, and the internal revenue bill, with its provisions for income taxes, was added as a rider. The bill is now in the hands of the majority of the senate finance committee, which is trying to fix it up so that it will have a chance to pass the senate. What changes will be made, and many are proposed, cannot be foretold, but it is safe to say that it will be more of a bill for revenue and less for deficiency when it is reported back to the senate. Chairman Voorhees announced that the committee would give no hearings on the tariff. Therefore, indorsements of the bill and remonstrances against it by the people must reach the senate by way of petitions.

THE BRAZILIAN REVOLUTION.

The Brazilian revolution has been dragging along for months. A policy of masterless inactivity seems to prevail on each side. Recently an incident of special interest occurred. The insurgents interfered with the free movement of foreign merchant ships in the harbor of Rio. United States Admiral Benham decided to give full protection to American commerce, and ordered one of our naval vessels to accompany and protect our merchant ships on their way to the Rio wharf. The insurgents fired on our ships; our naval vessel replied, and its commander threatened to sink the insurgent vessel if there was any further interference with American commerce. A one-pound shot and the threat were all that was necessary for the protection of American interests at Rio. The action of Admiral Benham was promptly commended by an appropriate resolution in Congress.

THE HAWAIIAN AFFAIR.

The house of representatives has attempted to let the Hawaiian affair drop gently by passing the following perfunctory resolutions:

Resolved, First, that it is the sense of this house that the action of the United States minister in employing United States naval forces and illegally aiding in overthrowing the constitutional government of the Hawaiian islands in January, 1893, and in setting up in its place a provisional government not republican in form and in opposition to the will of the majority of the people, was contrary to the traditions of our republic and the spirit of our constitution, and should be condemned.

Second, that we heartily approve of the principle announced by the president of the United States that interference with the domestic affairs of an independent nation is contrary to the spirit of American institutions; and it is further the sense of this house that the annexation of the Hawaiian islands to our country, or the assumption of a protectorate over them by our government, is uncalled for and is inexpedient. That the people of the country should have absolute freedom and independence in pursuing their own line of policy, and that foreign intervention in the political affairs of the islands will not be regarded with indifference by the government of the United States.

The first resolution condemns Minister Stevens, although it does not appear that there was before the house one iota of reliable evidence in support of the controverted theory that he aided, directly or indirectly, the overthrow of the rotten monarchy, or the establishment of the provisional government. The resolution does not in any way consist with the facts.

The second resolution approves of the principle of non-interference with the domestic affairs of Hawaii, unless foreign nations intervene. It is studiously silent on the acts of President Cleveland, and carefully avoids approval of his policy of restoration.

If these resolutions were intended to sustain the course of the administration toward Hawaii, they form the thinnest coat of whitewash ever spread by legislative hands. Logically, however, since his course has been nothing but blundering interference with the domestic affairs of an independent nation under a government recognized by the United States and other nations, the second resolution actually condemns him by implication.

CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERY.

There are a few lines along which it is possible and profitable for farmers to co-operate. One of these is butter-making. The establishment of co-operative creameries, wherever the conditions justify, has been recommended frequently in the columns of this paper. They are successful enterprises when located in the midst of a sufficiently large cow population owned by dairymen with the true co-operative spirit, and placed in the hands of good business managers.

In an address on dairying, before the Ohio agricultural convention, Prof. W. I. Chamberlain said:

"And what of the butter business? I believe it is a better business [than the cheese business]; far better if we can have really co-operative creameries with good centrifugal separators and the sharing of profits (or even the purchase of milk) on the strict basis of the Babcock test of butter fats. I lately visited a creamery at Centerville, Indiana, owned by stockholders who are chiefly patrons of the creamery. It is run on the profit-sharing

and co-operative plan. It has averaged one dollar a hundred weight the entire past year for standard milk, and has returned the skimmed milk to the patrons besides. Careful tests show that one hundred pounds of this separated milk are worth a bushel of shelled corn for feeding calves and growing pigs, if wisely fed.

The December butter sold at the factory at twenty-eight cents a pound, with no freight, commission or salesman's expenses. This creamery tests the milk of individual cows for patrons when desired, and thus lays the basis for individual selection and breeding from the best cows. And the fresh, sweet, separated milk, with oil-meal, middlings and clover, makes the very best food for raising the best heifer calves.

"The butter tests of different dairies in December run all the way from three and one half to five per cent of butter fat by the Babcock test. This shows the outrageous injustice and demoralizing effect of buying milk by the hundred weight, not tested. The churn test of salted butter sold averaged over five percent. Thus the churn test runs from twelve to twenty per cent above the Babcock, because the Babcock gives pure butter fats and the churn test gives actual salted butter, including water, salt and any other possible solids in the finished product. This is a wide margin, and in this creamery the patrons share the benefit of it. In many creameries the margin is kept very shady; the buying is by the Babcock test, the selling by the churn test, and the margin goes to the creamery owners, stockholders and officers, and not to the patrons. Wherever a creamery can be run like this, it seems to me the ideal plan. This particular one was built by a Chicago firm at a round price, but even this watered or loaded stock paid seven per cent dividend last year, and paid the patrons as stated. It has run nearly three years. The trouble in many places in the creamery work is of several sorts—too costly a plant, too many salaried men, unwise location and insufficient milk supply, petty quarrels and lack of confidence among stockholders and patrons, etc."

REFORMING THE TRAMP.

Work and water are two things studiously avoided by the professional tramp. The solution of the tramp problem is in the application of these two things. A successful device for the application of one of these reformatory agents is in use. The New York *Ledger* says:

"It has remained for the great West to produce a town that has evolved the most perfect tramp-suppressing, or more properly speaking, tramp-dispersing device thus far made known to the public. With wisdom that deserves the thanks of a grateful nation, the fathers of that city and the guardians of its peace have built a cell and provided it with numerous pipes directly bearing on all parts of the interior. After catching the tramp, they remove as many of his rags as possible, soap him thoroughly, then shut him in the cell and turn on the water.

"If there is one thing above another that fills the soul of the tramp with horror, it is water. Soap is bad enough, but water is, metaphorically, the last straw. The tramp howls, dances, shrieks and beats against his prison bars and the walls of his cage. But the water comes on, and heated with exercise and rage, it is only a question of time when the victim becomes at last approximately clean.

"And when his liberty is restored to him, he makes a bee-line for some less painstaking locality, and chalks on the palings, as he passes, a warning to his fellows that they and he may go there no more."

The device seems to be an excellent one, but it does not go far enough. For thorough reformation there should be work as well as water. The tramp should pump the water. But it would take too much time and trouble to make him do it by the ordinary appliances. Besides, the pumping and the bathing should proceed simultaneously. To accomplish this, the ablation-cage should be modified to the form of a giant squirrel-wheel, fitted with small buckets and hung to revolve with its lower part in a deep pool of water. To escape from submersion the tramp would have to climb steps on the interior of the wheel. This would revolve the wheel and lift the water for the shower bath. There could be attached to the axle of this revolving tramp-cage a small dynamo in connection with a storage battery, and electricity could be generated and stored for useful purposes. If this were to be done, rations could then be furnished to the performing tramp on the basis of a sandwich, a cup of coffee and mince pie for every thousand watts of electrical power that he generated.

Only the outlines of this machine have been given. Its details and the various kinds of work that it could be made to do will suggest themselves. It is full of great possibilities.

One of the comic papers recently had a pathetic caricature of two professional tramps bewailing the hard times, because there were so many amateurs on the road that they had no show whatever for themselves. The proposed work and water wheel will give them the show they need, and fill a long-felt want.

WINTER WHEAT.

The *Price Current* has made a thorough investigation and published a midwinter report on the condition of the growing wheat crop. It says:

"Fall seeding was prosecuted under fairly favorable conditions, though delayed, and germination hindered in local districts by drought. The least complaint comes from the Ohio valley, where generally good growth was made during the fall, and where December and January were favorable to continued development. West of the Missouri river the conditions surrounding seeding were not so favorable, the long drought of the summer of 1893 having made plowing difficult, and left the seed-bed rough and cloddy. The same unfavorable seed-time, from similar causes, was noted in portions of Missouri, and to a less extent in Illinois. In all districts, however, the proposed area was sown, though late, and moisture enough was present to secure germination and some growth.

"The winter, so far as regards temperature, till the closing days of January was remarkably favorable in almost every district. The only cold weather was early in December, and was accompanied by timely snow-fall that gave sufficient protection. The growth of the plant was not checked, and except in limited districts where there was continued lack of moisture, the plant continued green and thriving. It is the almost universal testimony of local reporters that the plant has made remarkable progress, and except where too dry has largely recovered from the effect of the comparatively late start."

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

From Peristyle Everyone of our readers should get to **Plaisance**. our "Photographic Panorama of the World's Fair." Read our offer on page 23.

The Florists, Nurserymen and Seedsmen Who advertise in this paper desire to place their catalogues in the hands of everyone who raises garden and field crops, fruits and flowers.

Kansas Agriculture. According to the report of its department of agriculture, the value of the farm products of Kansas in 1893 was over \$122,565,000, in spite of adverse crop conditions and low prices.

Farm Managers. There are a number of students in the school of agriculture of the Ohio state university who desire to secure work in the management of farms, orchards and gardens. Land owners who need the services of trained, energetic young men in this capacity are invited to correspond with the professor of agriculture, Thomas F. Hunt, Columbus, Ohio.

New Dairy Book. The "Manual for Southern Butter-makers" is a concise, reliable, practical work, written especially for beginners and prospective dairymen. Price, 30 cents by mail. Published by the author, Edwin Montgomery, Starkville, Miss. Mr. Montgomery is a practical dairyman and a well-known writer for agricultural papers. His pamphlet is a useful contribution to dairy literature.

Antioleo Bill The following bill, introduced by Senator in Congress. Hill, of New York, is now in the hands of the senate committee on interstate commerce:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all articles known as oleomargarine, butterine, imitation butter or imitation cheese, or any substance in the semblance of butter or cheese not the usual product of the dairy and not made exclusively of pure and unadulterated milk or cream, transported into any state or territory or remaining therein for use, consumption, sale or storage therein, shall, upon arrival in such state or territory, be subject to the operation and effect of the laws of such state or territory enacted in the exercise of the police powers, to the same extent and in the same manner as though such articles or substances had been produced in such state or territory, and shall not be exempt therefrom by reason of being introduced therein in original packages or otherwise.

Clover Is the sheet-anchor of Ohio agriculture. Even at the present price of seed it is really one of the cheapest fertilizers on the market. But be sure the seed you buy is absolutely pure. No farmer can afford to sow weed seed as a gift, much less to pay a high price for it. David's article in this number is right to the point.

Ohio Dairy School. There is a movement to establish a dairy school in connection with the school of agriculture of the Ohio state university. The board of trustees recently decided to build and equip such a school as soon as they have funds available for the purpose. For the building they desire an appropriation by the general assembly. Ohio is one of the leading dairy states in the Union, but is behind several others in this particular. The dairy schools of other states are notably successful. That of Wisconsin has a national reputation. That of Minnesota will probably have over two hundred students during the school year. The New York dairy school at Cornell university, opened only a few weeks ago, has over forty students. It is time for Ohio to establish such a school for practical instruction in one of its most important branches of agriculture.

Improve the Home Dairy Product. In the fight against oleo every dairyman has a part to perform. Not the least of this with many dairymen is the improvement of their own product. Oleo advocates claim, not without some show of reason, that oleo finds ready sale because there is so much poor butter on the market. Oleo, flavorless, or nearly so, colored and put up in attractive form in imitation of the choicest butter, is fraudulently offered to consumers as butter. Thinking that it is butter, consumers buy it in preference to genuine butter that is off flavor. For months past, during the lowest business depression ever known, choice dairy products have brought remunerative prices. What stronger inducements than good prices and fair profits are needed to encourage improvement in the quality of the product of the farm dairy? Better care of the cows, better methods of handling the milk, cream and butter will make the desired improvement, and they are within the reach of every butter-maker. Improved dairy apparatus save time and labor and make it comparatively easy to turn out a gilt-edged product. There is no profit now in anything else. There are profits in making choice butter.

Tariff Interrogatories. We acknowledge the receipt of a full set of the letters of inquiry to merchants, manufacturers and producers from Chairman Voorhees of the senate finance committee. We comply with his request by publishing the letter to agriculturists, which reads as follows:

In former years, when the question of the tariff was uppermost in the consideration of the people, circular letters were addressed to merchants, importers and others, making inquiries as to the character and amount of their business, prices and wages paid, rates of import duties, etc. This was notably the case in 1845, under the direction of Secretary Walker; in 1882, through the tariff commission; and in 1885, under the direction of Secretary Manning.

The replies to such interrogatories furnish valuable statistics and other data, and materially aid in legislating upon the subject of customs duties.

With a view to securing such information, the committee on finance submit to you the following questions, which they trust you will formulate replies to, adding such general or special matter as you may be possessed of, and which, in your judgment, will be of value to the committee:

1. What is the character of your product?
2. Do similar foreign products compete with yours?
3. What would be the effect upon your product of a reduction of duty on imports of all kinds?
4. Have the wages which you pay for labor increased or decreased within the past two years?
5. To what extent does your state export agricultural products?
6. What competition do such exports meet abroad?

7. To what extent, in your opinion, are the prices and character of your products affected by the manufacturing industries of your state?

8. Have your living expenses increased or decreased during the past four years?

9. Please give your views on the proposition to restore sugar to the dutiable list.

10. Do the present duties benefit, in any respect, people engaged in growing agricultural products and staples; and if not, how can they be so modified as to produce this result?

11. State generally anything which you believe would be useful to the committee in preparing tariff legislation.

The committee are desirous that your reply shall give a full expression of your views, and not be restricted to merely answering the questions categorically. At the same time it is desired that your answers shall be confined to your own business and be stated concisely.

Publicity will not be given to names or location of business if you so desire.

Address Senate Finance Committee, Washington, D. C.

Original Packages. Before state legislation requiring oleo to be sold for packages, just what it is can be thoroughly effective, there must be national legislation of the kind proposed in the Hill bill. Oleo manufacturers now send their products into a state and sell them in defiance of the laws of the state. Their refuge is in "original packages." They are now fighting against state laws regulating the sale of oleo, on the ground that they are unconstitutional. They claim the right to sell their products in "original packages" in any state in the Union, regardless of local laws. If the bill pending in Congress is passed, it will make short work of this. Each state can then regulate the sale of imitation dairy products as it sees fit.

Laws that will prevent fraud in the sale of these products are sufficient to protect the interests of consumers. Laws prohibiting them from being colored in imitation of genuine dairy products and sold as such, will be thoroughly effective if fairly enforced. Nearly all the oleo sold in the retail markets of the country is palmed off on consumers as genuine butter. Few consumers buy it knowingly. If they know when oleo is offered, they will either not buy it, or pay much less for it than they do now. If they really want oleo they will hardly be willing to pay two thirds the price of choice butter for an article composed mainly of cheap grease. The cost of producing oleo is said to be less than eight cents a pound.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

NO CHANCE FOR INEXPERIENCE.

Among the requests for advice recently received by me are also a number of letters written by people who wish to try certain lines of agriculture, especially market gardening and poultry raising, as a means of making a living, or a better living than a clerkship, a store or other business occupations afford them, yet who have only a slight conception, if any, of the life of the average farmer, gardener or poultry raiser, and but little, if any, practical experience in either or any branch of agriculture. In a former article, "From Railroad to Farming," I have already touched on some of these points. Here I wish to repeat, and this in order to make it as emphatic as possible, that there is no branch of agriculture (so far as I can recall to mind) which offers any chance of sudden success to the person who has little or no practical experience in this field. I do not wish to discourage any one from becoming a farmer, gardener or poultry raiser. I find gardening a delightful occupation, and take great interest in my poultry, and find profit as well as pleasure in both occupations. But to give profit, they have to be properly managed. My aim is to prevent the beginner from starting in with a fundamental mistake, and to save him from sore disappointment and loss.

Before any one can hope to become a successful physician, he will have to go through a course in a medical college and spend years in study. Before any one can become a skilful mechanic, he has to be apprenticed to a skilful mechanic, and acquire many years' practice. In short, before any one can embark in any kind of business on his own hook, he has to learn something about it. Fruit growing, gardening, poultry raising, etc., do not differ from any other business occupation in

this respect, that they must be learned before they can be practiced. The safest way for a young man to become a successful market gardener is to hire out for a few years to a successful market gardener. To become a poultry raiser, hire out to a person supposed to make money by poultry raising, etc. In the meantime, study some good books on the subject, also. This will enable you to compare theory and practice, and give you many good lessons for which otherwise you would have to pay very dearly. This is, indeed, the only advice I can give.

POULTRY FEEDING.

Many of those who desire to engage in the occupation of poultry keeping for profit think the poultry business is a very simple affair. This is far from the truth. Poultry keeping, to be made a success of, is just as complicated as doctoring people, and far more complicated than keeping a store or raising small fruits. Every point has to be guarded, or failure will enter right at that point. There is this matter of feeding. All who have ever kept fowls know that the summer is usually the time of greatest profit. If the fowls have the run of lawn, orchard or meadow, they pick up an incredible amount of stuff—grass, leaves, weed seeds, bugs, worms, etc. Small rations of grain or bran will give all the additional food needed. Often grain can be entirely dispensed with. Eggs may be cheap at this time, but they do not cost much, while broilers bring a good price. Winter, with us, is the critical time. The problem of profitable feeding grows in complication and difficulty with the severity of the winter. Any one who has ever kept fowls on purchased food knows that they eat a great deal during the winter, and that the bills for grain, even with wheat at only sixty or sixty-five cents and corn fifty cents a bushel, soon run up to a large amount. The higher prices of eggs (if we succeed in getting any during the early winter) are offset by the large consumption of expensive food. For best results, we must change the diet. The trouble is that the majority of people think grain is the only or even chief food for poultry. This is an error. Exclusive grain diet is not only expensive, but unnatural and unsafe. It may do well for a week, when fowls are being fattened for slaughter, but if long continued, it will surely clog the system, make fowls overfat and injure their general health and well-being. Our aim must be to winter our fowls cheaply and in a natural manner. We must find some cheap material that will take the place of the grass, the leaves, the bugs and worms, etc., which make the natural summer food, and only give grain in place of the weed seeds, perhaps a little more liberally and in grains of greater heating power, such as corn, buckwheat, etc., during very cold weather. I feed largely chopped-up vegetables (cabbage, turnips, carrots, beets, kohlrabi; also potatoes and apples) either raw or scalded, and mixed with bran. Chopped clover and corn leaves, scalded and sprinkled with bran, are also freely given. These materials furnish the desired bulk. Let the fowls fill their crops with them, if they wish; the stuff lies loosely, makes the fowl feel comfortable and contented, is easily digested, and generally produces best results. A reasonable amount of whole corn is given at night, preferably on the cob.

This is the way I always manage my capons. They get only small rations of whole grain, yet they are bound to get fat as butter. If I were to feed them all the corn and wheat they wanted to eat, I think there would be little profit left in them when they are ready for slaughter at a year old. By the way, we are told by our commission merchants in Philadelphia that there is no demand for capons until the end of February or the beginning of March, when capons will bring from eighteen to twenty-two cents per pound. Meat and bones, of course, must be used as substitutes for the bugs and worms. Green bones and waste meats may be had of any butcher for the taking away, or at a merely nominal price. In fact, a great deal of these materials now go to waste. They, together with chopped vegetables and clover and a little bone, might be largely used in place of the grains now so exclusively fed. A good bone-cutter, I think, will soon pay for itself.

I will name another point in the details of winter feeding which offers a ready avenue for failure. This is the usual neglect of giving to your fowls free access to sharp grit. Broken oyster-shells will do. Still, fowls prefer small, sharp stones. I believe there is nothing superior to raw limestone broken up in pieces of the size of peas. When fowls do not find grit of some kind, as is frequently the case during winter, the food is not properly digested, and hence will be partially wasted. I have had some striking examples of this lately, and shall be very careful hereafter that the needed sharp grit is always before the fowls.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

THE SEEDING OF CLOVER.

CLOVER is the great manurial plant of our northern states. It adds directly to the amount of available plant-food in the soils by storing in itself the nitrogen of the air. This cannot be done by rye, oats, timothy or blue-grass, and for this reason, as well as others, they are inferior to clover as manurial plants. I have sown many hundreds of dollars' worth of clover seed, and in view of the oft-repeated assertion that it is a difficult matter to get a stand of clover, will give my experience. With proper care I do not think it is difficult to get a stand of young clover, although on some land it seems impossible to keep a stand.

Let me caution every reader against filthy seed. Many sections of good farming land are literally overrun with plantain that got its first start from the seed that was mixed with the clover seed. It is no longer easy to get pure clover seed. There are "cleaners" that can take about all filth out of clover seed, but if it contains many light grains, the loss from cleaning is heavier than dealers care to stand. Filthy lots may be run through a cleaner with a sufficient force of air to remove the bulk of the filth in order to make the lot merchantable, but enough plantain is left in to befoul any field on which it is used. Dealers often represent a lot of seed as being first-class, when close examination will show that plantain is present. I will give my test: Thrust a moistened finger into the seed, and a layer of seed will adhere to it. Then examine carefully every grain. If one or two plantain seeds are found, depend upon it that if you sow that seed you will have cause to regret it. There will be enough plantain to make the field filthy.

One cannot judge well of the quality of seed by taking it in the hand. It should be spread out so that every grain may be examined. For this reason, nothing is better than the method I name. A good proportion of the seed should be purple in color, although light-colored seed is good when plump. Reject lots that have a large per cent of shrunken seed. Never buy a second grade; the best is none too good. There is no worse failure in attempted economy than in buying any low-priced seed. Order the best, pay for the best, and then see that you have the best. No dealer could give me a second-grade seed if it had some weed seeds in it. The weeds interfere with the growth of clover that is needed, and in the case of plantain the work of several years often fails to eradicate it.

A few good farmers advocate the sowing of clover seed in the spring, after all danger of freezing is past; but it is the experience of the great majority that early seeding is better. In the late winter, when the ground has been checkered by repeated freezings and thawings, the top soil is made loose and almost dusty. This action of the frost, while it is very hard on wheat, makes an ideal seed-bed for clover. The alternate freezes and thaws often continue for days. In the mornings before the wind rises, and before the ground grows sticky in places from thawing, the seed should be sown. It will fall in the tiny crevices and soon be covered by the earth.

I have continued to sow when the earth became a little sticky, but the seed will often stay where it strikes the earth, instead of bouncing and rolling down into the crevices. "But the seed may sprout and be killed by cold weather," objects one. I suppose this is true, as good farmers have said they have had such loss, but there is far more danger from summer droughts on late-sown ground than from frost on the early-sown. One year the weather turned warm after seeding, and there were sprouts about one half an inch long, when a sharp freeze came. Everything was frozen solid, but the stand of clover on that field at harvest was magnificent. There is danger from a freeze in the spring, I presume, if the young plants have taken root and put out the third leaf. The little tap-root may be broken off or thrown out, and the plant die, but it is my experience that this early seeding, when the soil is in the right condition, will nearly always insure a stand of young plants.

It is, however, not so easy to get a heavy growth of clover from these plants. Sometimes failure is due to drought after the wheat or oat harvest. The best protection

against drought is clipping with a mower. If the wheat is cut with a high stubble, mowing will give a very fair mulch to the plants. Do not run the sickle too close to the ground, but if the plants are five or six inches high, clipping off the tops will do good; it will cause the clover to branch out from the root, and thus thicken the stand. Often a second clipping in September does good. These mowings destroy the ragweeds, and leave the fields in the best shape, both for winter and for the next harvest.

In the first winter the plants are often thrown out of the ground by action of the frost. I have seen plants with long roots lying on top of the ground, just as if they had been drawn out by hand. One remedy is drainage. Compact clays that have fine surface drainage often heave clover out, but such lands need underdrainage to carry off the surplus water in the soil and let air into it. Some fields, on the other hand, throw clover out because there is lack of the elements needed by the clover to make a strong root growth that can withstand ordinary freezing weather. The roots of the plants have only a small supply of fibers to hold onto the soil. Such soils are probably more numerous than many suppose.

In fact, it takes pretty good land to grow clover well. If a field is naturally thin, there must be some kind of fertilizer applied. Barn-yard manure, worked into the surface of the soil before the wheat seeding, is not surpassed by any chemicals. If one has enough manure to make clover grow well, then it will do the rest. Its roots go down into the subsoil, drawing up potash, phosphoric acid and the nitrates, and they also take up the nitrogen in the air that fills the interstices in the soil. The clover-plant also changes the mechanical condition of compact soils. Its continued use in close rotation leads to failure to grow in some instances; but if used judiciously, it is the farmer's best friend. Our experience, in a word, is, (1) use only pure seed, (2) sow early, (3) clip the young plants after harvest, and (4) underdrain when necessary.

DAVID.

BEEF VERSUS PORK.

Beef is undoubtedly a much more healthful diet than pork, and at the same time it is frequently cheaper. While containing less of the heat and fat producing properties than pork, it has fifty per cent more of muscle-making power.

A contractor once tested this matter in a practical way in a frontier settlement. He fed his men, forty in number, for sixty days on a diet containing beef, and then had them carry a piece of timber for some distance. He then provided pork for the tables instead of beef for the same period, and without intimating his object, desired the same men to again remove the timber. After repeated efforts it was found that the men could not even lift the piece of timber.

Because of the heating properties of pork it may be advisable to include it in one's diet in cold countries, or during winter in temperate climates; but certainly this fact makes it objectionable during the summer months in our latitude. The chief difficulty in the way of its use by farmers is that beef is not so easily provided for summer use, while pork may be kept indefinitely if properly cured.

However, where one cannot have access to a butcher-shop, he may lay in a supply of beef during the winter, and by slicing down the steaks, carefully roasting the same after properly seasoning it, pack it down in gallon jars, pressing it carefully, so as to leave as few air spaces as practicable; then run fresh lard over the top, so as to have the meat well covered. Next cover with parchment-paper, such as is used in wrapping butter, and over all tie three or four thicknesses of newspaper. Thus prepared it will keep for several months, or perhaps for even a year, almost as fresh and sweet as it was when first roasted.

I usually butcher two or three beeves each winter, and after drying a few choice pieces, pack down the steaks in this way for summer use. The fore quarters are sold to neighbors or exchanged. I use very little pork except during the hog-killing season, when it is fresh, and I believe many others would follow the same plan if once they gave it a trial. The only secret about the method is to exclude the air as carefully as possible. When using from a jar, care should be taken to pack the lard down after removing a mess, and cover again.

JOHN L. SHAWVER.

THE MANAGEMENT OF MANURE.

No question which I have heard discussed at farmers' institutes this winter has excited greater interest than that of the management of manure, and I find that the practice of thinking farmers throughout the state is undergoing a radical change in this management, and that the number of those who advocate hauling the manure from the stable immediately to the field, when the weather permits, is constantly increasing.

These farmers are realizing the fact that the chemical changes which take place in a pile of fermenting manure involve far greater loss than is ordinarily experienced by the washing of well-scattered manure in the fields. They have learned from the chemist that the moment manure begins to heat it begins to lose ammonia, for such heating is due to the formation of ammonia. This ammonia escapes from the manure-pile in the form of an invisible gas, and hence those ignorant of chemical processes have not detected its escape, while they have been able to see the coffee-colored water running away from the manure scattered in the fields.

Another point has been overlooked; namely, that ordinary clay has a wonderful faculty for catching and holding the manurial elements of this colored water, so that even on a steep hillside the water flows but a short distance until it loses its color.

It is said that the process of refining sugar was discovered by observing the white tracks left by an old hen with muddy feet as she walked over a pile of brown sugar, and this property of clay has been demonstrated in many other ways.

As the matter stands now, it is probable that the occasional losses which may follow the spreading of manure upon frozen ground or snow, when the spring thaw comes with a heavy fall of rain, are far more than offset by the certain losses which ensue if the manure is allowed to heat, either in the barn-yard or in piles in the open field, for this heating begins the moment the temperature rises above the freezing point.

CHAS. E. THORNE.

Ohio Experiment Station.

BLACK CATTLE COATS AND ROBES.

As people reach a higher plane of intelligence and understand better the laws of health, they come to appreciate the luxuries and comforts of life. It is no longer regarded as effeminate for a man to wear a warm, luxurious coat, or to travel with a robe covering his feet and lower limbs. Winters are not more severe nor are men more tender than they used to be, but they are less inclined to unnecessarily expose themselves to the bitter cold, the searching winter winds, the rain or the snow. Fur coats, warm driving gloves and mittens and ample robes are more appreciated; we might say more fashionable, if the word were admissible.

Where are these robes to come from? The time was when buffalo robes and bear-skin coats were possible, but such are now impossible, as the buffaloes are gone and bearskins never were in very large supply. They are practically a thing of the past, so far as a home supply, at least. The increasing demand offers a market for imported skins of various kinds. The prices are high and practically beyond the means of most farmers, who of all classes need them most. The farmer and his family can be entirely independent along this line, as in almost any other, by raising his own supplies, whether real or artificial, if the will and genius for such production is not lacking. Let me quote a private letter from one such farmer who has been led to experiment on these things. This gentleman is a breeder of black cattle, and by degrees has become interested in tanning and manufacturing as well as growing the most beautiful, valuable and serviceable skin coats and robes. He says:

"Allow me to give, in a brief way, my experience in manufacturing, wearing and selling Galloway and polled Angus black cattle coats and robes. Of these two breeds of cattle, I think the Angus cattle skins make the best overcoats, as the hair is coal black, fine, straight, thick and glossy. It is beautiful, both in a coat or in a robe, far surpassing the buffalo robes we used to have. I like the Galloway for a long or curly-haired robe. In this they are without a rival among animals. The Galloway and Aberdeen-Angus will furnish the robes of the future, because of their beauty and solid usefulness."

"It goes without saying that these coats are the warmest made. I have often trav-

eled with parties who wore chinchilla overcoats and found they were extremely cold, while I was as warm and comfortable as though I had been within doors. I think where the Galloway and polled Angus coat excels all others, is that they are absolutely wind-proof, and neither the wind nor the cold can reach the body. Besides this, the heat does not escape from the system, two very important points to be taken into consideration. When people are caught in a storm—or blizzard—these goods will and have saved lives. It is easily seen that keeping the cold out and the heat of the body within, must keep the body in a natural and constant state of warmth. They are especially suited to men who have to ride much in our northern winters. It is well known that cowhide has a reputation for wearing qualities. It is hardly possible to wear these coats out, even by years of hard service. I believe a black cattle coat or robe will outwear that of any other, fur not excepted."

"One of the features of our goods is the softness and pliability of the tanned skins. This is not so of ordinary skin goods, and is readily accounted for by our improvements in the processes of tanning, by which all the glue is taken out of the hides. That, by the way, is where all other tanners fail; although they give months to the process the glue still remains, and when by reason of dampness or wetting, the skin becomes hard and harsh."

"Another contrivance has given great satisfaction in the use of our goods. By a patent process we are able to secure a uniform and given thickness to the entire hide, leaving no thick necks or bristles to be an inconvenience and a nuisance, but all parts are thin and soft like the flanks."

Here, then, is another factor in cattle raising, and especially so to these black, polled Scotch cattle, with their soft, glossy, curly, thick coats of hair, which is not to be overlooked by farmers. The prices of these robes and coats will justify the raising of such cattle, even if there were no other especial advantages in the breed, which no one now questions. The industry, too, is a home enterprise, worthy of the patriotism and foresight of the men engaged in the breeding, tanning and manufacturing of these black cattle coats and robes. Another point with these goods is the absence of odor, so objectionable in the buffalo robes as we remember them. The sight and smell of an Indian-tanned buffalo robe was more than the average team of horses would endure; it caused many a runaway and smash-up.

R. M. BELL.

Popular Preacher

Says HOOD'S Rallies the Vital Forces and Gives Strength.



Rev. J. Merritte Driver, D. D.

Is widely known as pastor of the First M. E. Church at Columbia City, Indiana, and is a powerful pulpit orator. His book, "Samson and Shylock, or a Preacher's Plea for the Workingman," has received much praise from press and clergy. Dr. Driver says:

"Columbia City, Ind., June 3, 1893.

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Our Farm.

GARDEN AND FIELD NOTES.

PARIS GREEN ON CABBAGES.—A reader asks me whether I consider it safe to use Paris green mixed with wood ashes as a means of clearing cabbages from the green worm. In a general way, I detest Paris green, and always try to avoid handling and applying it unless absolutely unavoidable. Much as I dislike to use it, however, I dislike the potato-bug more, and when the latter comes, I do not hesitate to apply Paris green to the vines. But when it comes to cabbages I go slow. It is true that I think it is absolutely safe to put Paris green on plants before the heads have formed, and would eat cabbages thus treated at an earlier stage, without the least fear of being poisoned. Yet there is certainly a prejudice against the use of Paris green on cabbages, and this prejudice is strong. So long as you will have to be afraid, for fear of losing their trade, to tell your customers that Paris green was put on the plants, so long had you better refrain from adopting the practice. Besides, we have other remedies that are just as effective, such as balsach, tar-water, hot soap-suds, kerosene emulsion, tobacco tea and strong solutions of muriate of potash and kainite. If you have a knapsack sprayer, you can conquer the cabbage-worm with a minimum of labor and material. Load it up with water and stir in a little balsach (previously mixed to a paste with hot water or alcohol), with any of the other liquids named, and then go ahead giving your plants a thorough spraying. Repeat this as often as seems necessary, and the worms will not give you much trouble. This is my experience; it is the experience of others. It will be your experience if you give this method a thorough trial. All these liquids kill by contact. To poison the worms with Paris green, or any other strong poison, you have to cover the leaves with a thin film of the poisonous material. Water usually runs off the cabbage leaves as it would run off a duck's back. The poison must be used dry. This, in my opinion, is always an objection, as the person applying it will inhale more or less of the dust. I do not care to do that. But if any one is bound to use Paris green on cabbages, I would advise mixing it with flour or plaster and applying it when the plants are wet with dew or rain.

SPRAYERS FOR GARDEN USE.—The knapsack sprayer is a useful thing in the garden, in small vineyards, young orchards, etc. You can use it in the greenhouse, to water flats or benches in which fine seeds are sown, or outdoors to fight insects and blights. It comes very handy for almost daily use, even if it is not a perfect implement. But when you have a larger area to go over—say an acre or two—of grape-vines or potatoes, etc., it means work to carry and operate the machine. I am glad, for this reason, that there is now a sprayer in the market which seems to me just the thing for spraying potatoes in large plats. As it is to be wheeled between two rows, spraying the row on either side or on both sides, as may be desired, and as it is geared from the wheel, needing no extra exertion in pumping, I think that hereafter we can do our spraying in the potato-field pretty easily, and can well afford to spray often, not only for the potato-bugs, but blights as well. I confess that heretofore the necessity of spraying has been my bugbear in potato growing. With this new wheelbarrow sprayer I fear it no longer.

GRAFTING GRAPE-VINES.—The most necessary thing to have for grafting worthless vines, and thus converting them into desirable varieties, is the needed amount of scions. These should be cut while perfectly dormant, and stored in sand or sawdust in a cool cellar. The method of grafting which has given the best results is as follows: Procure or fix a fine-toothed handsaw with two parallel blades bolted together, and so arranged that the blades can be set nearer or further apart, say at a distance of from one eighth to three sixteenths of an inch, which is done by the insertion or removal of a strip of cardboard or thin wood. A party in Yates county, New York, advertises such saws for sale; I believe he holds a patent on them. His saws are also provided with a little chisel, inserted between the two blades in such a way that the kerf is cut out as fast as the blades enter the wood. Now dig down into the ground around the

stem of the vine to be operated on; the deeper the better. If you have to cut away some of the roots emitted from the stem near the surface, it will do no hurt. You will notice here and there great knobs or swellings on the stem part of the vine. Select one of them that is several inches below the surface of the ground, and cut the vine off square half an inch or so above it. Now take the saw and saw a kerf, nearly vertically, into the knob or swelling, with its lower end slightly slanting away from the stem. Now you have a kerf, or slit, into which the scion is to be fitted as follows: Select a scion of proper thickness, having three eyes. If the scion has quite a bend or forms somewhat of an angle at the middle bud, all the better. Just below the middle bud, peel off with a sharp, thin-bladed knife the bark and a little of the wood for an inch, or a little more, on three sides, leaving the upper side (inside the angle) untouched. This trimming is done in such a way that this part of the scion appears slightly wedge-shaped, and will closely fit into the kerf of the stock by being pressed into it with a little force by means of a flat, smooth implement (knife-handle or screw-driver, for instance). This brings the middle bud just above the top of the stock, and the lower bud down into the soil. A number of scions should be inserted into each stock in the same way; really, the more the better. Four or six are none too many. This gives a chance for one to grow even if a number of them should fail. The scion is kept provided with moisture from below, and has a chance to strike roots if the union should not be perfect. When the desired number of scions are all inserted, the soil must be carefully packed around them and around the stock, and finally hilled up clear to the tops, so that the upper ends of the scions are just covered out of sight. In due time the upper buds will start; but most likely, after awhile they will wither and die down. Don't think this means failure. There is a secondary bud, which will start and may make a good growth of wood. Of course, we only want one of the scions to remain in the end. We leave the one having made the healthiest growth, and remove all the other canes. In a vineyard where we have a poor variety growing next to a desirable one, it may often be advisable to simply dig out the poor one and replace it by means of layering a cane from the adjoining good one, and let a bud grow from it right where the other one used to stand. I have thus replaced a lot of Pocklington, Salem and other varieties which were not suitable for my location, or did not suit me in quality, by layers from the Delaware which grew near the undesirable sorts.

JOSEPH.

Orchard and Small Fruits.
CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

PROFITS IN SPRAYING.

W. J. Green, horticulturist of the Ohio experiment station, in bulletin 48 gives the following summary of results of spraying:

(1) The profit to be derived from spraying orchards often exceeds \$20 per acre, and for vineyards much more. The fruit crop of the state would be enhanced in value several million dollars annually if the practice were generally followed.

(2) Combined fungicides and insecticides are recommended whenever applicable, because of a saving of time; a less liability of injuring foliage; greater efficiency in some cases, and as a precautionary measure in others.

(3) Dilute Bordeaux mixture, copper-arsenic solution and ammoniacal solution of copper carbonate are the most useful fungicides for the treatment of the diseases herein mentioned, and the first has the widest range of usefulness of all.

(4) Early spraying is the key to success in the use of fungicides.

(5) For the plum-currant and shot-hole fungus use Bordeaux mixture and Paris green combined, making three or four applications.

It is not known that this treatment will prevent the black-knot, but cutting away and burning diseased branches will accomplish the result.

(6) Scabby apples rot much earlier than those free from scab, and spraying with fungicides will save at least fifty per cent of this loss.

(7) Spraying with fungicides in the season of 1892 prevented much of the early dropping of apples, which is usually attributed to wet weather.

(8) For apples, two applications of Bordeaux mixture before blooming are advised, and two of the same mixture after blooming, with Paris green added.

(9) The same treatment is recommended for the pear as for the apple, before blooming, but the copper-arsenic solution is advised after blooming.

(10) The Bordeaux mixture, if used too late, causes a russet appearance on both pears and apples.

(11) The quince may be treated the same as apples, or with Bordeaux mixture alone.

(12) The treatment advised for the cherry consists in making two or three applications of Paris green—two ounces to fifty gallons of water.

(13) Peach-trees and American varieties of plums have very tender foliage, and must be treated with very weak mixtures, if at all.

(14) Raspberries may be treated with Bordeaux mixture alone. Grapes with the same until the fruit sets; after which, use copper carbonate. Potatoes should be sprayed at least five times with Bordeaux mixture and Paris green.

ABOUT CULTIVATING ORCHARDS.

The diverse treatment which orchards receive throughout the country affords a lesson showing the great benefit of giving them the best management, and the loss from neglected treatment. Neglect is too common, and poor crops and scabby fruit is the result.

In contrast with these neglected orchards are a few to which the owners give the best attention, and who receive good prices for the copious returns of handsome fruit. One orchard of this class, which has grown to full bearing size, affords the owner a handsome profit every year, while his careless neighbors receive not more than one fourth of his returns. This well-managed orchard is kept in grass, which is grazed short by sheep, the grass afforded them being only one half or two thirds as much as would give them full feed, the deficiency being made up with grain or meal. This is fed to them regularly in long, broad troughs. The sheep eat every wormy apple as it falls, and the fruit is thus kept nearly clear from insects. The droppings of the sheep enrich the ground, and a top-dressing of barn manure is added yearly. The sales of the fruit from this orchard for many years have been equal to one hundred dollars from each acre it occupies. The shade of the apple-trees prevents a rank growth of the grass, and the grazing of the sheep gives it some-what the appearance of a lawn.

The owners of some other excellent orchards, who cannot use sheep, apply yard or barn manure more copiously. In one of the finest visited, the annual application of manure had gradually made it two or three inches deep; the result was a superb crop of apples. Other orchards, with less manure, are kept clean and mellow with a gang-plow or Acme harrow, to keep the surface clean and in a finely-pulverized condition.

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HIGH-BRED round potatoes. 1 barrel worth of one crop seed. No more scabby potatoes. 500,000 Berry plants, true. 50,000 asparagus, fine, etc. Write for catalogue. J. W. Hall, Marion Sta., Md.

The largest stock of select **FRUIT TREES, PLANTS AND VINES** at the lowest prices. Send for 1894 Catalogue; 72 pages of valuable facts for the fruit grower. Free. T. J. DWYER, Cornwall, N. Y.

GRAPE VINES Small Fruits.

All old and new varieties. Extra quality. **Warranted true, lowest rates.** New Descriptive Catalogue Free. T. S. HUBBARD CO., FREDONIA, N. Y.

FREE NORTHERN SEEDS

Guaranteed fresh and reliable. Large pkts. 2 to 5 cts. Direct from Grower. Novelty presents with every order. Catalogue, **Free**—or with 2 packets Seeds, 5 cents; 35 packets, \$1.00. Send to-day. A. R. AMES, Madison, Wis.

EVERGREENS. Largest stock in America, including Colorado Blue Spruce and Douglas Spruce of Colorado. Also Ornamental, Shade and Forest Trees, Tree Seeds, Etc. R. DOUGLAS & SONS, Waukegan, Ill.

SEEDS O' WARRANTEED. O' Best in the World. By mail, postage paid, 1 cent a package and up. Grand lot of EXTRAS given with every order. Pretiest and only FREE Catalogue in the world with pictures of all varieties. Send yours and neighbors' address. R. H. SHUMWAY, ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS.

GOOD SEEDS

Purchasers of **SEEDS**, in looking through the columns of this paper will be in some doubt as to where to send for a **CATALOGUE**. To write to each house would involve a good deal of **TIME** as well as **EXPENSE** for postage. Many houses also (either directly or indirectly) charge from 8 to 25 cts. for their catalogue. We are very **GLAD** to **SEND OURS** to any **BUYER** of **SEEDS**, and are not afraid to have it contrasted with any Seed Catalogue published in America, for **Beauty of Illustration, Taste in Design, or Originality of Matter.** It is not from that standpoint, however, that we seek business. The true merit of our catalogue consists: 1st, in our endeavor to represent everything **exactly as it is**, without exaggeration in description or design. 2d, it is not merely a price list of Seeds. It contains valuable suggestions and information. Our notes on Oats, Carrots, Barley, Corn-Insurance, Field Peas, Rape, Lathyrus, Fodder Corn, Grasses, etc., afford food for thought. A beautiful colored plate of Prince Patrick, winner of the World's Fair Sweepstakes for the best Clydesdale horse in America, will interest every one interested in stock.

Every Farmer should have our catalogue as we devote more attention and space to Farm Seeds than any Seed house in America. Read about the Lincoln Oat, introduced by us last year; 817 bushels were grown from 7 bushels of seed, breaking all previous records.

Every Gardener professional or amateur should have our **CATALOGUE**, containing a select list of the best varieties, carefully grown and tested. Quality high, prices low.

Every Lady who grows Flowers, should have our Catalogue. Our Imperial Mixtures of Asters, Balsam, Sweet Peas, Nasturtium, etc., cannot be surpassed. Who has not heard of our Imperial German Pansies, unequalled for richness and diversity of coloring, and of which over 30,000 packets were sold by us in one season. Charming novelties, Bridal Veil, Evening Scented Stock, etc., should be in every garden.

SPECIMEN SALES FOR 1893.

ONION SEED 54,637 LBS. **BEET SEED** 29,837 LBS. **CABBAGE SEED** 7,031 LBS. **CARROT SEED** 10,967 LBS. **LETTUCE SEED** 6,449 LBS. **RADISH SEED** 18,700 LBS.

We submit that these figures show conclusively that a house that has built up a trade of this magnitude within the brief period of ten years, sells **GOOD SEEDS**. To test the advertising value of this paper, and to put the extra copies of our catalogue where we want them—in the hands of Seed Buyers—we will in addition to our Catalogue, mail to any seed purchaser, sample **FREE** packets of four choice varieties of seeds, viz.: Mauchry Barley, Minnesota King Corn, Golden Ball Lettuce, and Snowflake Pansies; **ONLY**, however, on condition that each applicant in writing us mentions the paper in which he saw this advertisement, and the words "GOOD SEEDS." **SEND NOW.** This offer **WILL NOT** appear again.

NORTHROP, BRASLAN, GOODWIN CO., SEED GROWERS, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

TIMBRELL REID'S ELDORADO BLACKBERRY

FRUIT TREES, ROSES, ORNAMENTALS,

CRATES and BASKETS. NEW FRUITS A SPECIALTY. Buy direct. Don't pay double prices. Illustrated Catalogue FREE. E. W. REID, Bridgeport, Ohio.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Fresh or Rotted Manure for Orange-trees.—E. A. B., Riverside, Cal. The results from the use of rotted stable manure are quicker than from fresh manure, but it is not generally considered necessary nor even a good plan to rot manure before applying it to trees. Rotting manure reduces the bulk, and it is often a wasteful process. It also requires considerable labor in order to attend to it properly. If the manure is spread on the land and covered a few inches, it soon decays and becomes available to the plant. It would rot very quickly on the soil you mention.

Filling Around Transplanted Trees.—O. F. H., Newcastle, Pa. I think your idea about filling in around trees with some material that would hold moisture is a good one. Should he very careful about putting in manure that would heat. I think no injury will come from filling in with well-rotted manure, but should prefer to use one third rotted manure and two thirds sods and turf, as from an old pasture. I have the highest opinion of sod buried around trees. I make it a rule to regularly feed some small elms I have growing in gravelly soil, by every two or three years burying half a load of sod in a hole near them. This material is perfectly safe to use, holds moisture well, feeds the tree and makes a fine mass for the roots to run in.

Budding Peach on Wild Plum.—A. D. J., Ontario, Ohio. It would be better to bud the plums in August. Those trees that have good, thrifty suckers coming up from the root I would cut off and bud on the sucker, for by so doing you would have a nice, clean bark to work on. But if there is no sprout, should bud on the old tree, unless the bark was very hard close to the ground. In that case I would cut the old trees off before spring, and trust to selecting one good sprout to bud on from those that start from the root. Such a sprout should be big enough to bud on by the following August. Should thin out the weak and diseased wood of the hazel and allow the rest to remain. If they did not grow well, should cultivate the land on each side of the row.

Currant Cuttings.—J. E., Walton, N. Y. The best way to grow the currant from cuttings (slips) is to cut off the new wood as soon as the leaves have fallen in September, and cut it up into pieces about eight inches long. Place them at once in rich garden soil, where no water will stand over them, leaving only one bud above the ground. Pack the soil firmly around them, and they will be rooted a little by winter, and the next year will make good plants to set out. They should be slightly mulched, to prevent from heaving by frost. This is the best way, but if you have not done it, you can make them early in the spring and plant at once as recommended above, but the chances of success are not nearly so good as if they were made in the early autumn. It is very important to have all but one bud about one inch below ground. In good soil they will make good plants in one year.

To Destroy Currant-worms.—Mrs. J. P., Bozeman, Mont. Commenced using the white hellebore as soon as the first worm is seen, or the leaves are at all eaten. This will generally be from the middle to the last of June. Use it dry, mixed with twice its bulk of flour or road dust, on the moist leaves, or at the rate of one ounce to a handful of water. Last year I was most successful with Paris green and water, at the rate of one pound to two hundred gallons of water. Either of these remedies may be used without danger, if applied before the fruit commences to color. If the fruit has colored, it would be best to pick it and then apply the poison. When applied as recommended, it is washed off the fruit before it is used; but if used at once, there is not enough of the poison on the fruit to cause any serious trouble. It is very important to look out for and destroy the second brood of worms, which appears just after the fruit is gathered, or by defoliating the bushes they will weaken them for next year.

Mariana Stock.—W. W. W., Martinez, Cal. The Myrobalan stock is largely being discarded as unsatisfactory, on account of its tendency to throw up suckers, to dwarf the growth of varieties worked on it, and from the fact that some varieties worked on it do not make a good union with it. The Mariana makes a strong, vigorous tree. It seems to have a wonderful range of adaptability in different varieties (much greater in this respect than the Myrobalan), does not sucker badly and works very easily. The Mariana has been used extensively as a stock for only eight or ten years, so that its ultimate effect on different varieties has not been ascertained, but thus far it seems to be meeting with very general favor. It is undoubtedly closely allied to the Myrobalan botanically. It readily grows from cuttings of the new wood, as I know from experience the past season, when out of five hundred cuttings of it, over ninety per cent grew. I feel quite sure that it will largely supplant the Myrobalan for a stock. I do not know any grower near you who has this stock for sale, but most of the large nurserymen of the country handle it.

Trees for Wind-breaks—Thorn for Hedges.—C. S., Lisbon, N. D. The best tree to grow for wind-breaks in North Dakota is white willow, as it is easy to get, grows fast, and is very hardy, and the trimmings make good light firewood. But in a wind-break I should want several kinds of trees, and should mix in with the willows a few of our hardiest trees, such as native ash, box-elder and white elm. On the north side I would, perhaps, put a row of red cedar, which is the hardiest evergreen we have. It will stand drought and cold in almost any situation, and when well grown makes a wind-break almost as impermeable as a stone wall. The best street tree for your section is undoubtedly the white elm, but cottonwood, native ash (not white ash) and box-elder are also good.—By common thorn you may perhaps mean the hawthorn, which has edible fruit. This is not hardy in North Dakota. The common buckthorn, which is also used extensively in the East for neat hedges along drives and the like, will probably be perfectly hardy in your section, since it is doing finely in severe situations in Minnesota. This has black berries that are not fit to eat. Plants of this can be bought for from three to six dollars per hundred. The seed also is inexpensive and grows readily. This latter thorn is well worth trying. In buying any of the trees mentioned, except the buckthorn, it is important to get those grown from native or at least northern grown stock. Box-elder and red cedar from the South does not stand as well in cold climates as the native plants, and this is true of many other kinds.

EXTRACTS
FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM TEXAS.—In this day of homeless people and crowded farms in the East, the homeseeker should investigate the advantages offered in the panhandle of Texas. This is comparatively a new country, but is rapidly settling with people from every state, especially from the northern and northwestern states. The state of Texas gives 160 acres of good land to every head of a family, and eighty acres to every single person over eighteen years old. The only cost is the payment of surveyor's and patenting fee—amounting to \$15. Three years' occupancy is required. The homestead laws are very liberal, and one who has obtained a homestead under the United States laws is not debarred from obtaining one here. He can sell his land and also transfer the time he has lived on the land, his vendee being only required to live out the balance of the three years. If 160 acres do not suffice, the settler can purchase 640 acres of school land at \$2 per acre, \$32 cash and the balance on forty years' time, five percent interest. Three years' occupancy is also required on this land, and at the expiration of three years the principal on any part thereof may be paid. The land is a chocolate loam, covered with mesquite-grass—the most nutritious grass grown—and will produce the first year. No clearing is to be done. Nearly everything except cotton and tobacco has been produced here. As a stock country it has no superior, and cattle go through the winter in good condition on the grass without protection. Health is excellent, malaria is unknown, consumption is benefited and pneumonia and fevers are rare. There is not sufficient practice in this country to support one physician. Hartley county is located in the northwestern part of the state, and the town of Hartley, the county-seat, is on the Fort Worth and Denver City railway, half way between Fort Worth and Denver. It contains several hundred inhabitants, has good society, a ten-months school and no saloon. The people are sociable and extend a hearty welcome to newcomers. Residence lots in the town can be purchased at \$10 to \$25, and patented land in quantities to suit purchasers can be purchased at \$1.50 to \$4 per acre, owing to quality, quantity and distance from town.

Hartley, Texas. M. F. B.

FROM TEXAS.—Last May I wrote you a letter descriptive of our sunny south land that brought me in all several hundred inquiries, and still they come, nine months after the publication of my first letter, all of which goes to prove that FARM AND FIRESIDE has a very large, widespread and attentive family of readers. The letters came from every state in the Union, and some from foreign lands. It also proves that the ever-vigilant people of the United States are also interested in the history and development of the whole Union, not excepting our remote corner. First and best of all we want to tell you of our delightful summer climate. The middle of January our prairies were as green as May in the middle states. Roses of every variety and hue were blooming luxuriantly in the open yards of our beautiful young city. Peach-trees were also in full bloom. Our open, unprotected gardens were full of fresh tomatoes, some green and some ripening, fine, large cabbage heads, onions, lettuce, radishes, beets, etc. The few bearing orange-trees of the town are full of the golden fruit; many of the old cotton stalks were still growing and blooming. Our streets were full of barefooted children, men were rustling around in their shirt-sleeves, with perfect comfort. We are actually reveling in a land of almost perpetual summer, sunshine and roses. Then our air is so pure and climate so healthful that we can all the more fully enjoy such a delightful climate and country. We realize that to our northern friends this story will read like a fairy tale, for the writer has lived in Missouri and Kansas. I will try to help you realize the force of these facts by explaining that Bee county is seventy-five miles south and 500 miles west of New Orleans, thirty miles from the Gulf of Mexico at Aransas Pass, in the coast country of southwest Texas, and eighty miles southeast of San Antonio. So you see that we must have a semi-tropical climate, that would be extremely warm in summer, but for the ever cool and refreshing sea breeze. So far we have not had enough frost to kill an unprotected tomato-vine. However, it is not always quite so mild; some winters there is enough frost to kill down for a short while the tender vegetation. We have had an unusual amount of dry weather since last May. The country did not make a full crop, and our best winter gardens are where they had windmills and irrigated some, which is easy and cheap. Yet we have good gardens without irrigation. Oats, wheat, barley and rye are fine pastures now, but I think we are so far south that only oats will mature successfully. Although the fall was dry, our country made a half crop of cotton. Beeville will ship about 5,500 bales against 3,300 last crop. The increase is largely due to new lands in the settlement of the country. Cotton is our leading farm crop. Winter vegetables and fruit growing are coming industries. Range stock stays in good order all winter on pasture. Our country is new and undeveloped. The big stock pastures are only beginning to be broken up. It does seem such a pity that such a healthy and delightful climate and country as this should lie idle and undeveloped. The light of our land is gradually gaining the hilltops, through the penetrating press. Thousands are visiting and locating in our summer land, and it is needless to say that our northern visitors are perfectly carried away. The railroads are helping by selling tickets to this country on the second Tuesday in every month.

J. W. M.
Beeville, Texas.

NEBRASKA LANDS FOR SALE. 70,000 acres in Lincoln Co. Those meaning business, apply to HUGH RALSTON, Rock Island, Ill.

GREAT SPECIAL OFFERS!

For only thirty cts. I will send you 12 packets Choicest Flower Seeds, which cannot be obtained in any other way for less than \$1.25 (50 to 300 seeds in each packet except as noted below); 10 seeds New Giant Perpetual Hibiscus, Sunset, the most magnificent garden plant introduced in years; 8 seeds Giant Brazilian Morning Glory, grandest of all vines; climber 50 feet; leaves a foot across; large clusters of pink flowers. 12 vars. large, double, double-flowered. 10 seeds elegant New Butterfly Pea. 30 vars. Large fl. Phlox, Pansy Park strain. 50 vars. Japanese Pinks. Mammoth Double Fringed Poppy, Snowball. Verbenas, saved from 100 vars. 8 vars. Double Rose, Portulaca, New Double Fairy Zinnias, 18 bright colors; the best strain ever offered; little beauties. For fifty cts., or 26 letter stamps, I will send all the above and 10 more packets, including 60 vars. Choicest Double Aster. 42 vars. Improved Sweet Williams. 10 vars. Double Everlastings. Dwarf Sweet Alyssum, a perfect gem. Elegant Spotted and Striped Dwarf Petunias, Chrysanthemums, etc. Send four cts. extra for postage and we will add 30 seeds of the gorgeous Redoute and Blue African Water Lilies, which are easily grown in tubs or ponds, and begin to bloom 100 days from sowing. When ordering, send for my Catalog of New and Choice Seeds, Roses, Aquatic and other Plants, which tells about the culture of 47 vars. of Water Lilies I offer.

L. W. GOODELL, Seed Grower, Pansy Park, DWIGHT, MASS.

Magnificent New Flowers
FOR ONLY 25 CENTS.

Including the lovely Orange Scented Tuberoses which bears flowers of great beauty and of unsurpassed fragrance, worth more than the price of the collection. One bulb of Orange Scented Tuberoses, 1 bulb French Seedling Gladioli, lovely epiphytic plant, Fuller's New Sweet Pea, in mixed colors, a grand variety; 1 pt. World's Fair Pansy, comprises all the finest strains mixed, 1 pt. Fuller's New Rose Aster flowers of great beauty, 1 pt. Star Phlox, 30 colors mixed; 1 pt. Giant Cockcomb, heads over two feet in circumference; 1 large pt. Mixed Flower Seeds, over 100 different kinds, all the best sorts, which grow and bloom freely. The above fine bulbs and seeds are worth \$1.00, will all flower this season, and we send them for only 25 cents. Order at once. Catalogue free. J. ROSCOE FULLER & CO., Floral Park, N.Y.

SEEDS THAT PAY ARE
SEEDS THAT GROW.

Our seeds are all fresh, tested and reliable. They are sure to grow if given a chance. It will pay you to get our Catalogue of Seeds and Plants, before placing your orders. Send for it to-day. Address F. W. RITTER & CO., DAYTON, OHIO.

Money= Saving Seeds.

RECOGNIZING the fact that in times like these, to hold our own, we must meet our customers half way, our new seed book demonstrates conclusively we have done so. If you wish to make every dollar count, you should have our Catalogue before placing your order. A few special features: 593 Illustrations; \$2250 in Cash Prizes; the Lowest Prices ever known on Maule's Seeds, Small Fruits, Flowering Plants, etc.

If you wish to purchase, we will send you a copy free; others must remit 10 cents, which does not represent one-half its cost. W. M. HENRY MAULE, 1711 Filbert St., Philadelphia, Pa.

EVERGREENS!

Shade and Ornamental trees. Large varieties of Spruces, Pines and Arbor Vitae, all sizes for Windbreaks, Hedges and Ornament. \$1 to \$20 per 100, \$1 to \$100 per 1000. Received highest award at the World's Fair. Illustrated Catalogue FREE. Local agents wanted. D. HILL, Dundee, Illinois.

TREES

for Spring Planting. Apple, Pear, Plum and other varieties. The Monarch Plum, Bourgeat Quince, Crosby Peach and small fruits. Very fine stock. Our Catalogue sent free, send for it. Fred. E. Young, Nurseryman, Rochester, N. Y.

Rawson's
Mammoth African
Poppies

This collection of magnificent Poppies are of the sleep-producing or somniferum variety of Africa, and are wonders of beauty, form and grace. The blossoms are of mammoth size, perfectly double, and of rich, brilliant colors. Seed can be sown from April to June, in open ground, and will produce flowers in about 60 days. We offer them in six different colors.

Lilac—shading to Lavender, with broad petals. Pure White, deeply fringed with bright Carmine. Purple Violet, shading to beautiful shining Bronze. Dazzling Vermilion, very showy. Blush Pink, shading to White. Snow White.

The entire Collection of six varieties for 35 cts.; two Collections for 50 cts. In addition to the above, we will mail Free with each order mentioning this paper, our Catalogue for 1894, which alone is worth 20 cts. It contains beautiful colored plates painted from nature; honest illustrations and descriptions; all the latest reliable Novelties, with full description how and when to plant all kinds of seeds.

W. W. RAWSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

TREES AND PLANTS.

UPON our 250 acres of nursery we have every class of hardy Trees and Plants; Fruit, Ornamental, Nut and Flowering. Mary and Henry Ward Beecher Strawberries and Lovett's Best Blackberry are among the most valuable novelties. In our catalogues named below (which are the most complete, comprehensive and elaborate published by any nursery establishment in the world) all are accurately described and offered at one-half the price of tree agents.

LOVETT'S GUIDE TO FRUIT CULTURE tells all about fruits, their merits and defects; how to plant, prune, cultivate, etc. Richly illustrated. Several colored plates. Price 10c.

LOVETT'S MANUAL OF ORNAMENTAL TREES AND PLANTS is authoritative as well as instructive; a model of excellence in printing and illustration. Gives points and plans for ornamental planting. Price, with colored plates, 15 cents.

Established 40 years. We successfully ship to all parts of the World.

Ali who order either of the above and name this paper will receive an ounce of Flower Seeds free.

J. T. LOVETT & CO.

LITTLE SILVER, N.J.

Wilson's 1894 SEED Catalogue
PLANT, TREE and SEED

Live Stock Annual

112 pages, handsome colored plates. Hundreds of natural illustrations. Full of useful information. All kinds of guaranteed Garden, Flower and Field Seeds. THE WORLD'S FAIR PREMIUM and other Productive Potatoes Specialties. Also all kinds of Choice Roses and Rare Flowering Plants. New and popular varieties of Small Fruits. Grape Vines. Fruit and Ornamental Trees. Thoroughbred Land and Water Fowls. Bronze Turkeys. Eggs for Hatching. Registered Pigs. German Hares, etc. Catalogues free on application. Address SAMUEL WILSON, MECHANICSVILLE, PA.

THE LITTLE DARKEY and his love
Dixey Watermelon

are fully illustrated in our unique and beautiful Seed Manual for 1894. If you are an up-to-date Gardener you should be familiar with its pages. It is free if you are a buyer of SEEDS.

JOHNSON & STOKES, 217 and 219 Market Street, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SALZER'S NORTHERN GROWN SEEDS ARE THE BEST!

We are the largest growers of farm and vegetable seeds in the world. Wheat, Oats, Barley, Corn, Clover Timothy, Grasses, Potatoes, etc., in enormous quantities. 1,000,000 Roses and Plants. 35 pkgs. earliest Vegetable seeds, enough for a garden, post paid for \$1.00. 18 pkgs. late Vegetable seeds, 50c. Say, our Great Northern Oats yielded 216 bush. from one bush, sown! Did you ever hear the like? Pkg. of this Oats and catalogue free upon receipt of 8c in stamps. 10 Farm Seed samples, 10c, with catalogue, 15c. Our great catalogue, 130 pages, for 5c postage. Write to-day.

JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO., LACROSSE, WIS.

Headquarters for Pear, Plum, Apple, Nut, and all other Trees, of the best. Also the finest and best Strawberries, and Choice Small Fruits. Write for our Catalogue of 1894. You will be interested in our Big 4 Jr. and Frost Proof Strawberries.

THE ROGERS NURSERY CO., Agents Wanted. (Department I.) Moorestown, N. J.

TREES THAT THRIVE

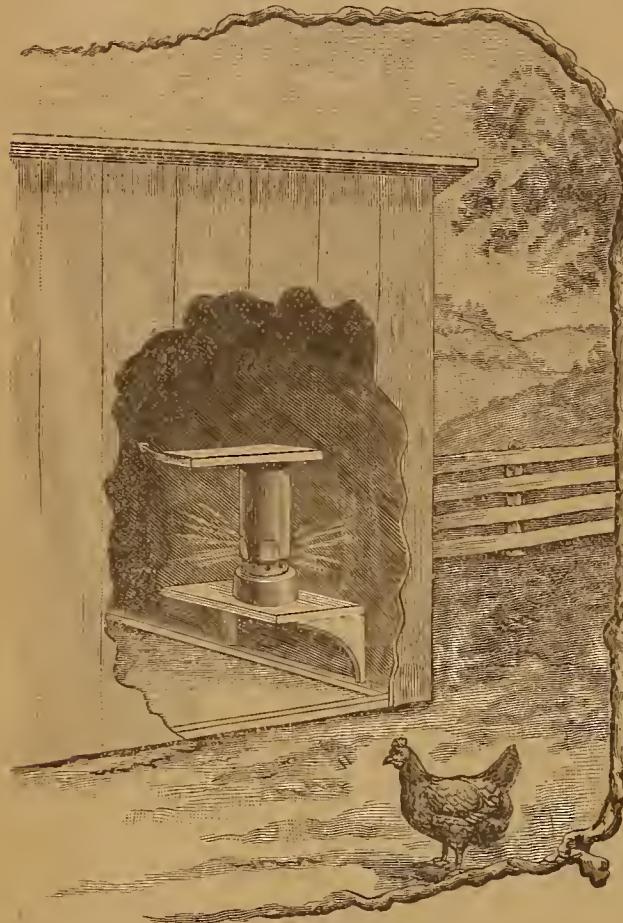
Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

WARMING AND VENTILATING.

To warm a poultry-house does not require a stove. The house need only be kept at a temperature of 40 degrees, so as to avoid freezing. The illustration shows a lamp inclosed in a box, or placed on a swinging shelf. Above the lamp is a piece of pipe, not over four inches in diameter,



LAMP FOR POULTRY-HOUSE.

rather flat, which may be made for the purpose. The lamp heats the under side of the pipe, thus creating a current of air, the warm air rising and the cold air coming in from the outside, thus giving ventilation as well as warming the air. The object should be not to have the air come in too rapidly, hence a damper should be arranged. It is better to have a pipe three inches wide and one inch deep, making it flat, so as to heat the air more easily. Our object is not so much to show the arrangement of pipe and lamp (a small oil-stove is better) as to give the suggestion. By this plan you make the house dry, ventilate at the same time, and keep the temperature above the freezing point.

WINTER WATER-TROUGH.

When the birds drink, and their wattles are dipped in the water, there is a liability of the wattles being frozen, the consequence being that they cause great pain to the bird. It has long been a problem how to avoid this difficulty. The use of drinking-fountains prevented frozen wattles as long as they remained intact, but as such fountains are of earthenware they are often broken by the frost, and hence some substitute must be resorted to. We present in this issue an ordinary wooden trough covered on the top, with openings not larger than an inch or two in diameter, so that the birds can only insert their beaks to drink. The trough may be filled and emptied through these openings, and the troughs should be kept filled with water, or the birds will not be able to reach the water level. The same arrangement may be used for chicks, only the troughs should be smaller. These troughs can be made at a small cost. If preferred, the top may be movable, or can be lifted up, a heavy stone being placed on it to hold it in place. It will save much pain and suffering to the birds.

The Spring Curry Comb, manufactured by The Spring Curry Comb Co., South Bend, Ind., is the best thing of the kind ever placed on the market. In every essential for which a curry comb is desired, it fills the bill. When used on horses or cattle its operation is as gentle as a woman's hand; as searching as the eye of fate; as thrilling as a maiden's love; as perfect as nature's laws. It insures mercy and delight to all animals it is used on. See advertisement in this paper.

"IS SHE DREAMING OF THE ANGELS?"

No, she has recently received one of our portfolios of World's Fair Views. You would look just as happy as she does if you had a set of them. See offer on another page.

POULTRY AND HARD TIMES.

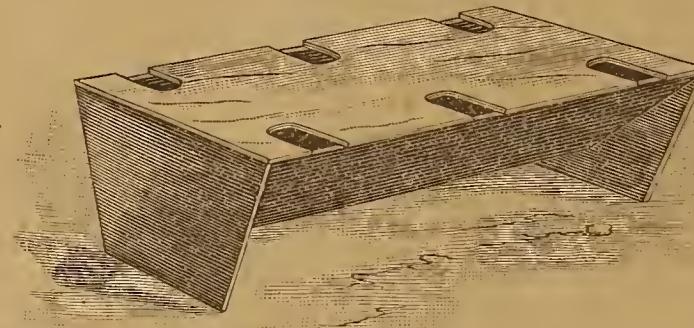
Car-loads of poultry are shipped from the eastern cities every day to the farmers of the West, and yet many of those farmers are wondering what they should do to increase receipts. They produce the cheapest kind of articles to sell and buy the most costly. Yet they could as easily produce the articles desired for themselves. This is not a statement based on fancy, but is a stern fact. Denver, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and the new cities of the West, buy their poultry and eggs from points east of the Mississippi river.

There is a portion of the winter season, where the climate is very cold, that the labor of the farmer is lost, because it can-

not be profitably applied. If the people in his section are compelled to send to a distance for articles that can be produced on the farm, why do farmers waste their time, when they can provide the articles that are in demand? Why do farmers look upon poultry as fit only for women to look after, when there is work enough for one or two strong men if poultry is made a business? It is safe to say that nothing sells sooner than poultry and eggs, and the returns are always cash. One does not have to wait for the money or look to the future for the returns, as the hens will supply their quota daily, and have something coming in all the time.

No farmer has the right to complain if he neglects his home market. If poultry and eggs are brought

into his neighborhood to be sold, why should he grow wheat to send away, when his market near by is willing to accept something that is produced elsewhere? If the eastern farmer finds a profit in poultry and eggs by shipping them to the West, there is a larger profit for the western farmer, because he escapes the transportation rates, and can consequently hold the market against competition from other points.



WINTER WATER-TROUGH.

It may be that farmers are not very partial to work done with poultry. It may be to them somewhat of a small business for a farmer. What matters such if it pays? Farmers work for money, like other classes, and nothing that will give them a profit should be overlooked. There is a fearful loss of time by some of them when the snow is on the ground, and they may have to clear off a space for the hens (which cannot well be done by women), but if the hens will lay and give a profit, what is it to them? Their labor is profitable wherever it can be applied, and while the care of a flock in the winter season may entail extra work, the well-filled egg-basket will be a remuneration, and, as we stated, eggs always sell for cash.

WARM HOUSES FOR CHICKS.

If the brooder is warm and the brooder-house cold, the chicks will not thrive. Chicks will not go under a dark brooder if they can huddle in a light corner, and it is necessary to have the brooder-house as warm as seventy degrees. The majority of losses are due not to the brooder so much as the cold quarters when the chicks are in the brooder-house. If the chicks are kept warm, they will thrive on almost any kind of food that may be allowed them.

GREEN BONE FOR POULTRY.

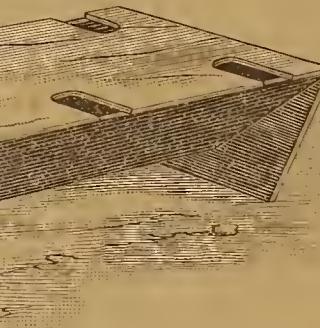
Green bone contains the natural juices, and is not only soluble, but is a food. It contains lime for the shell of the egg, nitrogen for the white, a proportion of oil and fat, and also serves as grit. There is nothing which can approach it as food for poultry, so far as a combination of excellent materials for egg formation is concerned.

Bear in mind that though we also recommend ground bone, there is quite a difference between green cut bone and ground bone. The one is ground, while the other must be cut with knives. The green bone contains also adhering meat, and combines flesh and bone forming elements which make the complete chick. Ground bone becomes hard and brittle, having lost the natural solvents by evaporation; but green bone is readily dissolved when eaten, and is also the most economical of all foods.

A pound of cut bone will be an excellent allowance for sixteen hens, or an ounce for each hen per day. This is cheaper than corn, and has the advantage of containing more egg-producing food than corn. A pound of bone will give as good results as four pounds of corn, but we do not infer that nothing but bones should be allowed. Give grain and green food, but make the green bone a part of the ration also.

If you have no bone-cutter, then you are in the predicament of the farmer who has no plow. The bone-cutter may cost you a little at first, but as it is made of iron, and will last for years, it soon repays all that is expended in that direction. Bone-cutters are often advertised in this journal, and as they are now improved to the highest capacity, one cannot fail to get more than the cost. We simply make this statement in order to reply to some of the readers who occasionally inquire in regard to bone-cutters. Now, as we stated, do not confound the bone-mill with the bone-cutter. One grinds dry bone and the other cuts green bone. It is very difficult to *grind* green bone, but it can be easily *cut*.

Then there is the increase in eggs by the use of the bone. When the hen is supplied with a *complete* ration she will lay, and if bone is allowed the hens do not readily become overfat, as they will receive food that is more suitable. Anything that produces eggs is cheap. Corn at ten cents a bushel is not cheap food if one receives no results. Bone-cutters will also eat vegetables and roots. They will even eat dry bones; but what you should have for your hens to make them lay is the fresh, green bones from the butcher, and cut them so as to convert them into food for hens. The poultry droppings will then also be more



WINTER WATER-TROUGH.

valuable, and the young stock will grow more rapidly.

We have used bone-cutters, and will state, for our part, that if we supposed that we could not buy another, we would not sell the ones we have for ten times the cost, and the hens have long ago paid us the cost by laying more eggs.

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These diseases. The first is what diphtheria is to human beings, and closely allied to that disease. Symptoms are sneezing like a cold, slight feverishness; running at the nostrils, severe inflammation in the throat, canker, swollen head and eruptions on head and face. A breeder of fighting game fowl which from their habits, are more liable to roup than others, gives us a TREATMENT, which he says is a Positively Sure Cure for the

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Our Farm.

PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING AT HARRISBURG,
JANUARY 16 AND 17.

EATTENDED this meeting and listened to valuable discussions by some of the most practical horticulturists of the state. Philadelphia is noted for its vast consumption of fruit of a high quality, and the men who grow the fruit, and the trees and plants that produce it, form that society, its membership being largely from east of the mountains.

W. H. Moon, a nurseryman widely known for the large and complete stock of ornamental trees and bushes he carries, is president, and E. B. Engle, of Waynesboro, Pa., is secretary.

I will attempt to give only some of the cream of the discussions. Before I begin, however, let me introduce to my readers the newly-appointed chief of pomology, the successor of Mr. H. E. Vandemaur, who for eight years held that position, who organized its methods and work, and who made thousands of friends all over the country.

The new man is Mr. E. B. Heikes, of York, Pa., who has been secretary and president of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. He is "a jolly good fellow," of fine appearance, and a lifelong fruit grower. He has a wide acquaintance with fruits and fruit men, and is evidently held in high esteem by his fellow-horticulturists. He was present at the meeting, and helped greatly in making the discussions interesting, being quite familiar with the sciences that aid horticulture. He is 57 years of age.

FRUITS.

The Keiffer pear cut quite a figure in eastern Pennsylvania markets. There was a fine crop; the fruit ripened nicely with high color, and brought good prices as compared with peaches and berries. First-class grade brought \$2 per bushel, and the culls also found a market. One hundred trees are planted to the acre, and trees eight years old produced three bushels each. Specimens larger than large Bartletts were shown at the meeting that were fairly well preserved and that had not been in cold storage. They were left upon the tree until ripe, then picked and put in kegs on the north side of the house until freezing weather, and then headed up airtight and put in the cellar. The sealing is done on a day when the temperature outside is about the same as that of the cellar. If removed to the cellar when it is very cold outside, the fruit sweats and causes rot. The Keiffer is shipped all over the country, and seems to be gaining great favor as a cooking or canning pear. It has a point in its favor as a market fruit, that it comes at a time when there are neither peaches nor melons, while the Bartlett finds the market glutted with both.

The Globe peach had been fruited by several. In some cases it grew quite large, but it seems quite variable in size, and is decidedly sour and very poor in quality.

The Triumph gooseberry was claimed by Mr. Brinton, the accomplished corresponding secretary of the society, to be decidedly in the lead of a dozen leading varieties he had growing. It is of a greenish-yellow and as large as Industry. Several members urged the more extended planting and use of gooseberries. Gooseberries are generally picked too green. They should be allowed to ripen and then be canned. They are an excellent and cheap substitute for cranberries.

One grape grower, who supplies a special retail market, claims that he does the best with Woodruff Red for red, Eaton for black and Niagara for white. He bags the Niagara as a protection from rot. A grower who lives seventy miles from Philadelphia claimed that freight was higher from his place than from grape-producing points 300 miles away. The Keystone grape was on exhibition, the claim being made for long-keeping quality. It is a black grape, pretty well preserved outwardly, but dry and of no account to eat. Of its history, as to whether it is ever good, I cannot say.

The wineberry was praised by Mr. Brinton for its beauty and jelly qualities. Mr. Heikes had fruited it three years. It was a red raspberry, inclosed in the calyx like a capsule until half grown. The calyx then opens, disclosing a berry of a delicate

straw color, which deepens to an orange and becomes blood-red when ripe. It is productive, but too sour to eat in the usual way. It makes a jelly equal to currants, and is of a color that surpasses any other fruit product.

The Erio blackberry received many commendatory remarks.

Prof. Butz, horticulturist of the state experiment farm, spoke very highly of the Greenville strawberry. This originated in Greenville, Ohio. It was twice as productive as Crescent grown alongside, and as large as Sharpless. It ripened more evenly than the latter variety.

WINDFALL APPLES.

There was a considerable crop of apples in several counties in Pennsylvania, and apple eaters all over the country who are going without or paying \$4 per barrel for apples, may be interested in the fact that Center county produced thousands of barrels for which the producers received but 25 cents per bushel. It would certainly pay the farmers of that benighted region to follow Secretary Morton's advice and take the daily papers, if not a good agricultural journal.

The terrible storms that visited the Atlantic coast in September blew off many hundreds of bushels of apples, and this loss led to the discussion of what were the best apples to resist wind. Mr. Heikes said short-stemmed apples were most likely to drop. Apples with short stems, like the Baldwin, would sometimes grow themselves off by pressure against the bough.

Prof. Butz said a healthy tree would retain the fruit longer than an unhealthy one. L. B. Pierce said the codlin-moth was of great assistance to the wind in dislodging apples. Wormy apples matured prematurely and lost their grip. H. M. Engle considered a wind-storm a blessing in disguise. It thinned overladen trees of their surplus and gave the remainder a chance to grow. Mr. Chase called attention to the fact that apples that were winter apples or long-keepers in New York and Michigan were much earlier in Pennsylvania. Picking was often delayed too long. All varieties did not require picking the same week. Some late-keeping varieties should be originated on Pennsylvania soil for Pennsylvania orchards.

President Moon said it was the work of a lifetime to originate and test new varieties. New berries or grapes could be grown from seed and tested in three or four years; not so with standard fruits.

H. M. Engle said it was a mistake to think it took a long term of years to fruit seedling apples. A tree big enough to make one or more scions could be grown the first year from seed and then put into a bearing tree as a top graft. If nothing happened, it would bear fruit in four or five years.

Mr. Chase said apples varied considerably under the same name; so much so that in some cases, like the Baldwin, two or three sorts differing enough to almost make a new variety could be sorted out. If nurserymen would graft only from bearing trees, and of those nearest approaching the type, there would result a weeding out of the poorer variations. Florists did not take cuttings indiscriminately from good and poor plants. If they did not take pains to cut from typical plants, the characteristics most desirable would often be lost. It was the same in live stock breeding. A certain standard was adhered to, even if the greater number went to the shambles.

THINNING FRUIT.

Does it pay? was thought by two gentlemen to be doubtful. Mr. Heikes said it took no longer to pick it when small than when large, and resulted in giving the remainder a chance.

Mr. Brinton said one could sometimes remove two thirds of the fruit and get just as many bushels at the final gathering as if none had been removed. The larger fruit would also bring a better price, and in a year of glut sell when the other would not.

L. B. Pierce said that with fruit with larger stones it was a case of economizing in mineral fertilizers. The pulp took little mineral matter from the soil, the pit took a great deal. If we grew four peach-stones to get the same amount of pulp that might be grown around one, then we wasted the growing of three pits and tried the resources of the soil and the constitution of the tree to that extent for nothing. A successful pear grower in Toledo thinned fruit on pears by cutting back the shoots

and cutting away spurs. The same could be done with cherries and plums. This should be done while the tree was dormant, there being no leaves to obstruct the vision.

Mr. E. B. Engle said peach growers in southern Pennsylvania thinned by cutting off the ends of the twigs after peaches were as big as grapes.

This precipitated the old discussion as to the injury done by summer pruning. The discussion was closed by Mr. Brinton, who asked, "Why do we poison canker-worms?" and after a pause, answered it by saying, "Because they eat the foliage." He then asked another, "Is it any less trying to the constitution of the tree or vine to cut off the foliage with a knife than to have it eaten away?"

DISEASES AND STORIES.

There were two papers on the yellows, and a good deal of fruitless discussion. During the talk I learned for the first time what the trouble known as "rosette" was. It is a multiplying of the petals of the peach-blossom, making it *double* and *barren*. It is becoming a serious trouble in the South, especially in Alabama. I asked if it was liable to prevail in the North if trees were procured from the South.

Mr. Moon said that was what Pennsylvania nurserymen told their customers. "If they planted home-grown trees they would escape the rosette, but if they bought Alabama trees they would have it, sure."

President Moon is quite a story-teller, and I will give one of his best: A good many years ago a Long Island nurseryman died, leaving a large stock of grape cuttings planted out. His son, a bummer in New York, cared nothing for the nursery business, but wanted to turn the old gentleman's estate into as much money as possible, so he had the vines carefully attended to, and the second year advertised the vines as the Heavenly grape, raised from seed which his father had sent him from the other world. He had wonderful pictures made of the pretended fruit, and succeeded in selling a great many vines at \$3 each. After awhile the vines bore, and proved not very good, and black in color, while his picture represented them of the color of gold. When complained to about it, the son assured his customers that it was not his fault, "the climate around New York was so much colder than that where his father lived."

L. B. P.

SOME HINTS ON BUYING A HORSE.

Don't buy a horse of a man who prides himself on being a horse jockey; he will cheat you every time, either by not telling the whole truth, or by allowing you to believe what is not true about the horse. A horseman may be scrupulously honest and reliable in everything else, but tricky in a horse trade. In buying a horse, do not be smart and put your judgment against the honor and integrity of the man who is selling the horse, or he will allow you "to cut your eye teeth."

Never buy a horse in harness; unhitch him and take everything off but his halter, and lead him around. If he has stiff knees or shoulders, or has other ailments, you may be able to discover them. Turn him loose and get behind him, and chase him for a few minutes to see his movements. The horse may be blind and his eyes apparently all right; one eye may be sound and the other one not. Take the horse by the head and back him; if he drags his toes, you may depend upon it his shoulders are unsound. Stand beside the horse and notice if his knees are sprung forward; they should be in a straight line. Notice if the horse stands firmly and squarely on every foot, and does not change his weight from one foot to the other, which you may know indicates soreness somewhere.

To know if a horse's wind is good, give him a run of ten minutes, and then watch the results. If a horse stands with his feet wide apart or straddles his hind feet in moving, especially while pulling, there is a fault in the loins or kidneys. Examine the hoofs carefully with the hand. The feet should be cool and all alike. The frog should be as near like india-rubber as possible, not dry and brittle. If the ears are continually thrown back and eyes unkindly, the eyes wide apart and the face dished, the chances are the horse is very smart and very mean. If the horse has a thin, narrow face, with eyes close together, the horse is a natural-born fool, suspicious, ready to scare to death at nothing and do all sorts of fool things. You don't want such a horse for anything. Watch out for scarred hind legs, as the horse is probably a kicker. A stumbling horse will probably have scarred knees. A rough, harsh skin that sticks to the body like the bark on a tree, indicates stomach troubles; he is a hearty eater and has fits of indigestion. To know surely if the breathing organs are right, put your ear at the region of the heart and lungs and you can tell. The breathing should be clear and with no wheezing sounds. With all this there is no man living that will not be deceived sometimes.

R. M. BELL.

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Our Farm.

PLUM CULTURE.

A PROMINENT NEW YORK FRUIT GROWER TALKS.

MEETING Hon. D. S. Willard, of New York, on the cars a short time since—we were both journeying to the same point of destination, the meeting of the Maine state pomological society, where Mr. Willard was to talk to Maine fruit growers upon commercial plum culture—the topic of interest between us was the discussion of the culture of the plum.

"What are the main requisites to successful plum culture at the beginning of the business?" was asked Mr. Willard.

"Good trees, properly set in good soil properly prepared, are the fundamentals, and then proper attention all the way along in their growth," was the reply. "Hardy stocks are essential, and onto these graft or bud the varieties desired."

One of Mr. Willard's earlier experiences was setting plum-trees between apple-trees, setting both together, the idea being that when the apple-trees had grown so as to require the whole room, the plums would have become exhausted and past usefulness. The seventh year the apple-trees bore fruit in value of about \$1.50 to a tree, while the plums, beginning to bear at three and four years, gave \$10 to \$12 value per tree. The consequence was, many of the apple-trees were rooted out to give place to the much more profitable plum-trees.

"Many fail in growing plums by not properly considering the soil before setting the trees," said Mr. W. "Plums need a strong, rich soil to produce in abundance and fruit of good quality. Manures containing a large per cent of nitrogenous compounds may prove injurious; the want of the plum-tree is potash and phosphoric acid. Chemical fertilizers containing these elements in excess of nitrogen may be used with profit in the plum garden." He had known instances where plum-trees had been damaged by the application of overdoses of barn dressing—the effect of too much nitrogen causing the trees to die prematurely.

"The plum, like most other trees, is susceptible to improvement by proper pruning. When the trees are received from the nursery, trim to three or four branches, and cut these back one third or one half of previous year's growth, according to the condition of the roots. Each succeeding year cut back about one third, and thin out all branches which cross others; this will give low and symmetrical heads. Tall trees, as they are inclined to grow if left unpruned, are a nuisance when gathering the fruit, or when cutting out the black-knot."

"At the head of the list for profitable commercial plum growing is the Reine Claude de Bayay; it is a plum of good quality, productive, and picked at the proper time, a good shipping variety. The tree is not hardy, but top-grafting it upon the Lombard is a success."

"Next was the Lombard, which might be styled everybody's plum, but it is of low quality. A hardy tree, very productive, of taking appearance and a good shipper, but lacking in the one particular quality. Other varieties to be recommended are Bradshaw Gui, Coe's Golden Drop, Stanton and Monarch."

Referring to the Japan plum, Mr. Willard said that there were several that were productive and hardy, and of quite good quality. Of these were the Burbank, which was to be recommended above all others. In point of quality nothing surpassed the Yellow Botan. Botan 26 was the earliest in ripening, but poor in quality. In choosing varieties for the commercial plum orchard, hardiness, productiveness and market qualities should govern. Ashes were a fine fertilizer for the plum; a half bushel spread about a tree forms a good dressing. Muriate of potash is also valuable, when ashes are not to be had.

"An essential thing in orchards under high cultivation is thinning of the fruit. Most varieties of plums are inclined to overbear. As a rule the plums should not come in contact with each other while hanging on the tree. If they do, in some seasons the fruit is sure to rot, even if spraying is resorted to, which ordinarily is a preventive."

"But thinning serves another important purpose; it enhances the quality of the fruit and saves or prolongs the life of

the tree. Fruit properly thinned is a third larger, and this sells quicker and gives better satisfaction in market."

"The time to thin is after the natural dropping of the fruit, which will be more or less in individual trees from various causes—improper fertilization of the flowers, winds and insects. Thin out half the fruit left."

"Gather the fruit when well colored, but yet hard. Left till later destroys their value for shipping. Plums thus picked will ripen up in the packages. Pick in the morning and late afternoon—the cool of the day. Pack when no heat pertains to the fruit."

"Clean cultivation should be practiced in the plum orchard. The trees will not thrive in grass, or where the weeds are allowed to appropriate the fertility of the soil."

"Shallow cultivation should be practiced, only deep enough to cover the dressing applied. The one-horse plow, cultivator and spring-tooth harrow are good implements."

"The bane of plum growing is the black-knot. Black-knot can be controlled, but not prevented. The knife and burning is the remedy of most avail. Black-knot is a fungus and propagated by spores spread by the wind; hence, a careless neighbor's garden may be the means of spreading the disease over the territory of the most careful grower. For that reason a law was passed by the New York legislature imposing a penalty for allowing the knots to remain upon diseased trees. Twice a year go over the trees, and cut off the knots and burn them."

"Leaf-blight may be controlled by spraying with Bordeaux mixture; also, spraying is a preventive of rotting of the fruit on the trees."

"The curculio proves a very annoying insect. Spraying with Paris green had been highly recommended to prevent its ravages, but the more experienced plum growers fall back upon the jarring process to head off this troublesome insect. This is an old method, and the contrivances of sheet and mallet are the most effectual of anything known."

L. F. ABBOTT.

"HENS BY THE ACRE."

If I were to advise any one who contemplated beginning in the poultry business, I should say:

Begin on a small scale and get the knowledge which can be gained only by experience as you proceed. It is not so likely to be "dearly-bought wit," and if you get disengaged you can get out without so much loss. I propose to take my own advice and go slowly. I have now 15 houses completed. Eight are stocked with hens from one to four years old, and the rest with pullets three to four months old, which will give six acres or 600 hens for the winter campaign. I set my first setting of eggs on March 17th, and got my first pullet's egg on August 3d. The pullet that laid it could not have been more than three months and twenty-three days old. She is a Brown Leghorn, and is the only one that has commenced to lay in August. Most of my old hens are such as I could buy during the winter, being a mixed lot of all sizes and colors. I have no hobby as to breeds, but propose to give the single-comb Brown Leghorns a trial.

I had a call the other morning from Deacon Thomas, who is one of the slow-going farmers who is satisfied to do just as his ancestors did, and would be afraid to get out of the rut they made for fear he would get lost. I was just starting out to feed my hens, so I invited him to go along. He looked with wonder at what he called my telegraph wires, and I noticed that he walked as far away from the poles as possible, evidently thinking they might "go off." By the time we had reached the second flock, his tongue was unloosed and he began to ask questions.

"What is that you are giving your hens this morning, anyhow?"

"Oh, this is their regular breakfast."

"What is it composed of?"

"Well, in the first place, I take four bushels of good wheat and eight of the best clipped oats to the mill and have both ground. To the flour are added 200 pounds of wheat bran and 100 of animal meal, or meat scrap, and the whole is well mixed."

"Do you give them the same thing every morning?"

"I have used this mixture now for over a year for morning feed."

"Do your hens do well on it?"

"I have never had them do better in the many years I have fed hens."

"But there is no corn in it! Now, my hens like corn, and father always fed it to his hens, and they were always plump and fat when we wanted to kill one. My! what good, rich pot-pie mother used to make. It makes my mouth water yet to think of it."

I had to smile at the deacon's earnestness, but simply remarked that I was feeding for eggs and not for pot-pie.

"You seem to be taking corn out of a barrel there and putting it up in that little box with the telegraph-machine on it. What is that for?"

"Why, that is for their supper."

"But how ever can the hens get it away up in that little box as high as my head?"

"That is an electric feed-box, such as your father never dreamed of. I can press a button down in my dining-room this afternoon, and this telegraph-machine, as you call it, will cause the corn to scatter on the

floor, so!" and the deacon jumped back as I sprang the magnet, and the corn began to rattle over the tin deflector and scatter over the floor.

ANY MONEY IN IT?

"Well," said the deacon, "does it pay? That is the main question."

"To be sure it does. It is only an experiment with me thus far, but present indications are that it is going to pay even better than I at first supposed. I started out to prove that stony pasture-land that could not be profitably tilled, could be made to pay a yearly profit of \$100 per acre, by stocking it with 100 hens to the acre. You see that first building over there we visited? It was stocked with 40 pullets November 1892. Come up to the house and we shall see how they are making out. Here is the record:

Dec.	215 eggs at 38 cents per dozen.....	\$ 6.84
Jan.	208 eggs at 40 cents per dozen.....	6.93
Feb.	314 eggs at 36 cents per dozen.....	10.32
March	327 eggs at 24 cents per dozen.....	10.56
April	645 eggs at 24 cents per dozen.....	12.90
May	693 eggs at 23½ cents per dozen.....	13.57
June	552 eggs at 24 cents per dozen.....	11.04
July	539 eggs at 25 cents per dozen.....	11.25
	Total 3,723	Total \$83.41

The other seven houses, stocked last April, are doing equally well. Present indications are that by September 1st (nine months) they will have paid for the building (\$40), in addition to paying for themselves (60 cents each) and paying for their feed, which costs about 10 cents per day for the flock of forty."

"How do you get such big prices for eggs?" said the deacon.

"Why, do you call those big prices? I don't. The first man I struck last winter, when I went down to the city to look for a market, offered me eight cents per dozen above the highest market quotation. As that was satisfactory for the present, I did not look any further. I expect to find some one who will be glad to pay more than that when I get in shape to send a crate every day, and guarantee each egg not over 24 hours old."

The deacon sat in a brown study for some time. When he looked up at last, his next question was:

"How long did it take to feed those hens this morning?"

"Probably about an hour. When I have no one along to talk to, it takes three or four minutes to each flock."

"Well," said he, "if my calculations are correct, if a man had twenty acres in hens and they paid as well as this flock whose record for eight months you have just showed me is doing, he could clear in the neighborhood of \$3,000 a year. My! just think of it! I keep twelve cows on my farm of one hundred acres and have hard work to sell \$600 worth of milk after paying my feed bills."

"Don't figure too high," said I; "if I can make them pay a profit of \$1 a hen I shall be well pleased. The months of October and November are to be heard from yet, when they will be molting. There are some losses to be reckoned, also. Three of the flock have died already. In fact, most of the 3,723 dozen eggs have been laid by thirty-seven hens."

SOME DISADVANTAGES OF PROSPERITY.

"Well," said the deacon, "I am sorry I came over this morning."

To my look of astonishment he replied: "Susan has been teasing for a new hen-house all summer, and when she hears of this, I shall have to build it for her, sure."

"If Susan takes to the business, you fix her out with buildings and hens enough to keep her busy an hour every morning feeding them and half an hour at night hunting eggs in the old orchard back of your house, and if she don't clear enough money every year to buy herself a piano and a silk dress and make her 'pa' a present of a new mowing-machine, I shall be very much mistaken."

"It won't be necessary for me to buy her those telegraph fixings, too, will it?"

"I don't know. You can tell by trying. From my experience in feeding hens, if I should go out into a ten-acre field with 500 or 1,000 hens running at large and attempt to feed them from a basket, I should expect to see them come to meet me from all quarters, till after a few days I would have the whole crowd around me at once. The greedy ones would get more than their share, and all would get so mixed up that they would never all get home to roost. You can buy the electric feed-boxes much cheaper than you can build yards for each flock."

As the deacon rose to go and took his hat from the piano, I was reminded of the way I got started in studying the possibilities of the American hen. Several years ago my wife was like the Deacon's Susan—she wanted to go into the hen business. We had an old hog-house not in use, so she bought about fifty hens and went to raising chickens. She happened to have pretty good luck and raised a good lot of them. This was in 1884. In 1885, when her chickens were about half grown, she bantered me one day to buy her out. I offered her twenty cents each for them, and she took me up. She had bought her own feed, and when I paid her for the chickens she proudly brought out enough savings from her chicken and egg money to buy a good organ. To be sure, this has since been traded for a piano, and the minks got in to my chickens a few nights after I had taken possession and killed forty of them, making me feel blue and her jubilant that she had sold out just in time; but then I got experience. I learned that a mink would go through a crack an inch wide, and straightway I built a house in which the cracks were less than an inch wide. A few days ago I heard one of the most prosperous merchants in the city of Middletown telling about how his wife keeps hens on their city lot. They live in the suburbs and have probably half an acre of land around their fine dwelling. He said she began to talk of wanting a sealskin cloak last winter, and he began to plead poverty. He told her he had no money to pay for such foolishness. "By Jinks," said he, "if that woman did not go and get an old stocking, in which she keeps her egg money, and count out enough to pay for the sealskin cloak."

We take pleasure in calling attention of our readers to the advertisement of Mr. D. Hill, of Dundee, Ill., in this issue. His stock of Evergreens and Forest Trees, all Nursery grown, is of the hardiest varieties, and for wind-breaks, ornament, etc., are unequalled. Mr. Hill's Evergreen Exhibit was awarded the highest prize at the World's Columbian Exposition last summer. Write him for Illustrated Catalogue, and mention FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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Our Fireside.

THE FAREWELL.

Not going abroad? What, to-morrow?
And to stay; goodness knows, for how long?
Really, Jack, 'twould appear that dry sorrow
Had done even you, sir, a wrong.

It has? Ha! ha! ha! what a joke, sir!
Is it Mabel or Jenny or Nell?
I'm sure you are wrong; hold my cloak, sir.
Am I not an old friend? Come now, tell.

The prince of our set broken-hearted!
What a joke! Who rejected you? Speak!
Did you look like that, Jack, when you parted?
Was that pallor of death on your cheek?

You interest me. Tell me about it,
And let your old chum, sir, console.
Hard hit in the heart, I don't doubt it;
You were made for that sort of a role.

Did you bend on your knee like an actor,
Hardly knowing just where to begin?
Was dear mama's consent the main factor?
What a fool the poor girl must have been!

Who was she? What! I—you were jealous?
Oh, Jack! who'd have thought such a
thing?
You've been certainly not overzealous,
But kiss me, and where is the ring?

—Harford Chat.

I WILL!

Sidney Attwood's Ambition.

HARRY WILLARD FRENCH.

CHAPTER I.

THE VILLAGE DOCTOR'S OPINION.

The sun was rising one autumn morning in the grand Shenandoah valley, half a century ago. The village doctor, from his home a mile or two away, was driving down the valley for an early call. Just before him, a narrow lane crossed the road and a creek ran under a bridge, turning a mill-wheel on its way to the Shenandoah. The mill and a few huts occupied three corners, and a great, gray stone mansion the fourth. The mansion still stands there, with the same old thorn hedge bordering both lane and road. A knoll rises behind the hedge, and on the summit stands the stone mansion, with its sweeping gable roof still slated in red and blue diamonds.

Everything was litter about the four corners. There was not a sign of life visible; but a boy's voice sounded, singing King David's morning hymn as Watts wrote it. He was hidden by the hedge, but the doctor had heard his voice so often that he easily recognized it; there were associations in the long, long ago which made it more interesting to him than any other voice in all the Shenandoah valley. He stopped his horse, and approaching the hedge carefully parted the thorny branches and looked through. Half way up the knoll an old apple-tree lay where it had been left by a recent gale, and among its fallen branches sat a boy of twelve; a weak and puny cripple, with a frail, nervous body, a thin, pale face, a mass of tangled curls, two great, black eyes, and a foot that was painfully twisted out of shape.

"Sidney Attwood, you've a hard row ahead of you to hoe, and a precious poor hoe to do it with," the doctor muttered to himself as he watched.

A book lay open on the boy's knee, and the club shoe on the twisted foot was swinging slowly with the singing, when another voice sounded, as rough and harsh as a watch-dog's bark.

"Drat that parson's pipe o' yours!" it said. "You're minding well what I told yer, t'other day."

With a shudder the village doctor glanced toward the veranda, where, steadying himself by one of the posts, stood a man who once had it in his power to be the intellectual and physical champion of the Shenandoah valley. His massive shoulders were bent; his hair was matted about his head; his eyes were bleared, and but for the post, he would have fallen from the veranda. He was accompanied by a boy older than Sidney and diametrically his opposite, whose skin and features betrayed the fact that he was the son of a plantation woman.

The cripple's voice trembled, but it was clear and musical still as he replied:

"I have obeyed you, papa."

"Well, what's that book you're yellin' out o'?" shouted the father, fiercely.

"I wasn't singing from the book at all, papa," the cripple replied. "It is only a book of old Greek stories mama gave me."

The strong man shuddered at the word "mama," but more savagely than ever, as if to atone for it, he exclaimed:

"I've heard too many niggers yellin' that stuff not to know where it comes from. Take the book away from him, Tom, and burn it, before he commits it to memory."

And with that he staggered into the house again, while Tom ran down the hill and

caught the book from Sidney's weak fingers, laughing at his struggle to keep it and replying to his pleading:

"I brought de ole man out a-purpose fo' ter heah yoh sing. He's drunker'n a sailor, 'n' I knowed der'd be a row t'would pay yoh fur not tellin' me who drinked my ginger-water."

"I'd rather lose the book than tell you," soibed the cripple, clinging nervously to the branch upon which he was sitting. "They all get floggings enough, without my help, and nobody meant any harm. I wish you wouldn't burn dear mama's book, but I will not tell."

The doctor's hand trembled until the leaves of the hedge rustled, and he quickly withdrew it and drove away upon his mission, thinking of Sidney's mother, a beautiful woman who came from New England to be the wife of the handsomest, the richest and the most brilliant man in the Shenandoah valley. She died less than a month before, the legal victim of a drunken husband, leaving the puny cripple,

the ground. He had recovered consciousness and crawled out from among the apple branches when Tom returned, accompanied by Col. Attwood.

"So you struck Tom in the face with a pistol, did you?" shouted the drunken father.

Sidney's body was twisting about on the grass, wobly beyond his control, but his great, black eyes looked straight into his father's face as he replied:

"If I did, papa, I didn't mean to, and I'm very sorry."

"An' you think that'll settle it, bey?" the father exclaimed, fiercely. "You just come long with me to the whipping-shed an' I'll flog yer till yer don't do it again this week, I'll het my boots. Come long, now!"

A stranger from the North was driving through the Shenandoah valley, with his wife and little daughter. The horses were drinking at the creek when Col. Attwood's threat caught his ear. From his position he could see over the thorn hedge to where the little cripple lay at the feet of the drunken

stranger from killing him, in his anger, was the voice of his little daughter, exclaiming:

"Papa, he's dying—he's dying!"

Glancing over his shoulder, he saw Florence tugging with all her strength upon the unconscious form as it sank upon the floor of the whipping-shed. He did not venture to look again at the man at his feet, lest his anger should overpower him. He did not stop to consider any question of law, but turning to Tom, said sternly:

"Take him up carefully and put him in my carriage. Florence, show him the way."

When they were gone, the stranger threw the whip into the distant corner, drew a revolver, cocked it and went out, closing the door behind him. The hint was sufficient. Col. Attwood remained where he was.

All was quiet at the four corners when the doctor passed, on his return, but there was excitement enough when he reached his home, where the stranger had left the cripple in the hands of old black Aunt Cloe. He was tossing restlessly upon the sofa, and

sprang into Aunt Cloe's arms with a piercing shriek at the sound of the closing door. The slightest motion about him made him tremble violently; and at every sudden noise he would struggle and cry out, as if in the most intense agony. More than three weeks of anxious care and watching passed before the first rational word escaped his lips. It was in the middle of the night. The doctor was bending over him, when he looked up with a smile of recognition and said:

"Her hair was like the sunshine, and her eyes were like the sky. Could it have been an angel, doctor?"

"It may be," the doctor answered softly, for he had not seen the stranger's daughter, and of course supposed that his little patient's mind was still clouded.

Very slowly Sidney crept back to life again, but the twisted foot had lost what little strength it had and the face was paler and the eyes were darker than ever, and larger; while at every sound the nervous body would start and cringe as though the pistol were fired again. His mind came out of the sickness as curiously ill-balanced as his body. He would instantly obey whatever any one commanded and believe whatever any one told him, while nothing would induce him to state anything as a fact upon the strength of his own observation. Quickly and eagerly, however, he mastered every text-book he could obtain, and the mania for study grew constantly stronger, in spite of every precaution which the village doctor could impose. That it was only a mania—something abnormal—the doctor was forced to confess to himself; and worst of all, it was absorbing every atom of physical strength, which his patient could ill afford to sacrifice.

Col. Attwood had no desire to have his son return, and the doctor was glad enough to keep him; but after months of the most careful study, he reluctantly said to himself that life for Sidney Attwood was a failure from the start. The conclusion forced itself upon him that all which seemed remarkable in the boy must be the unique effect of those great, black eyes set in so thin and pale a face, under such a peculiar mass of curling hair, and that his extraordinary characteristics were simply the result of his early training and the fact that he was deprived of the occupations of other children. He zealously did all that he could for him, but he felt sure that, both physically and mentally, he would topple over, like a reed before a whirlwind, with the first touch of the rough finger of the real world.

As if to deliberately set at defiance every possible chance for hope, Sidney developed an inordinate desire to study medicine, and concentrated

there the whole ambition of the tiny spark of life which he possessed.

Vainly the village doctor endeavored to dissuade him from expending his strength upon something so utterly beyond his reach, but he might as easily have turned the course of the Shenandoah with verbal arguments. He looked in blank astonishment at the cringing, credulous, obedient boy and wondered at the defiant determination.

"I never heard him say 'I will' before," he said to himself; "but it is either a whim, which he will give up, or it will kill him before he has gone far with it."

Sidney never spoke of his father, under any provocation, but he would talk of his mother as long as any one would listen. Tom fell into the way of coming frequently, to spend a half day with him, and though the doctor feared the influence of that robust magnetism over his abnormally susceptible patient, he did not venture to oppose the visits, for Sidney seemed to enjoy them, and at least they kept him from study.

In time, however, he began to miss small sums of money left in his office desk, and instantly his thoughts accused Tom. At the

AMONG ITS FALLEN BRANCHES SAT A BOY OF TWELVE.
"WHERE IS THE MOTHER OF THAT CHILD?" "I WILL!"

ber only child, upon a very troubled sea. While she lived she was a powerful guardian angel about her boy, protecting him and teaching him all that she had brought with her from the North, until he was already studying Greek and Latin, and was thoroughly proficient in German.

Col. Attwood had not been sober since she died, and all the restraint which had held him back for years reacted in a vindictive desire to crush the last frail atom of life out of the cripple with those great, black eyes that haunted him with thoughts of the mother.

Tom turned and walked slowly up the hill. He was not satisfied with the punishment he had bestowed. He looked back over his shoulder. Sidney's back was toward him, and he seemed to have forgotten the whole matter. Tom was disappointed; but as he watched, a wicked smile broke over his face. He drew a pistol from his pocket, crept cautiously back again, held it close to the cripple's ear and fired.

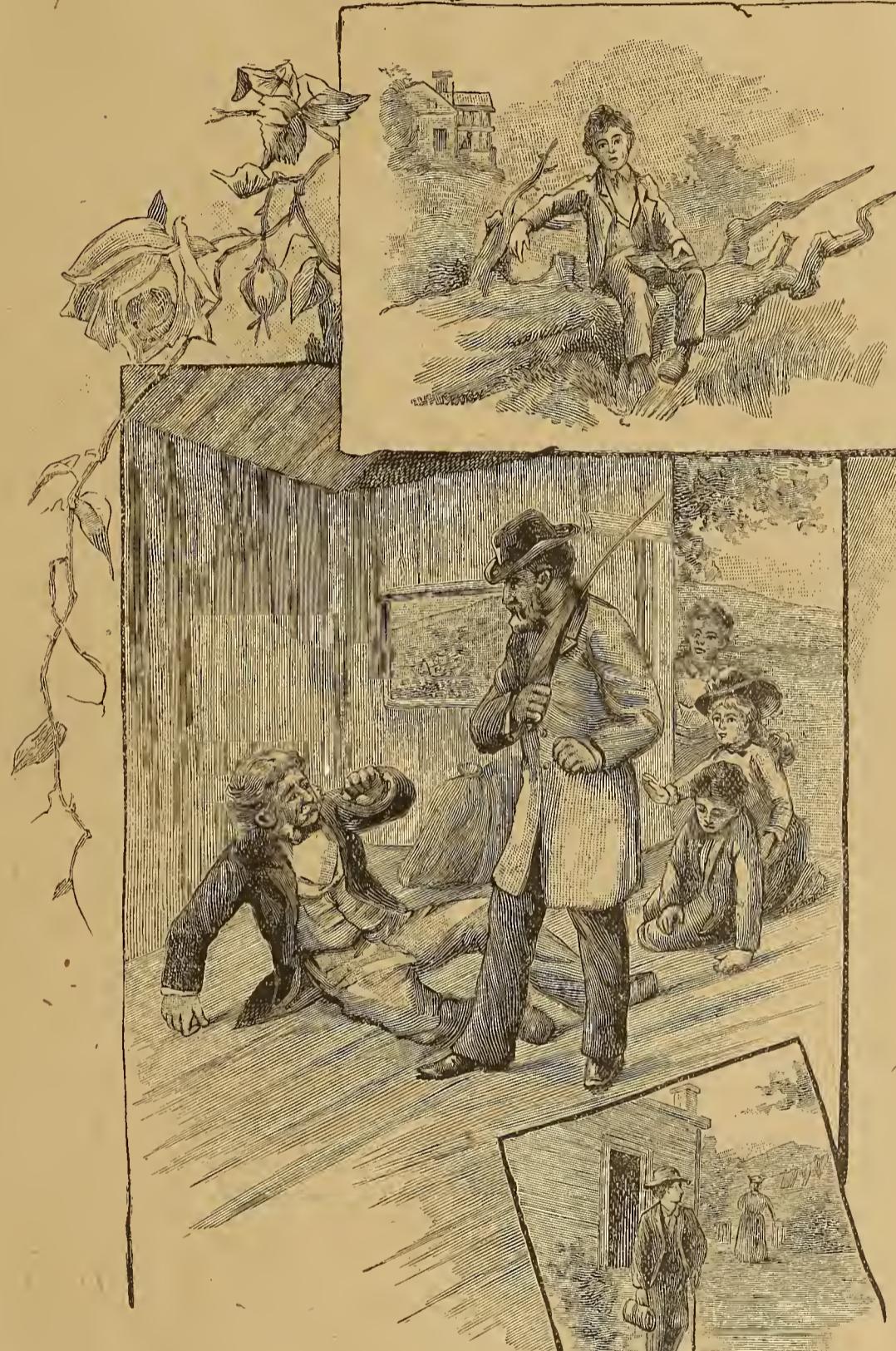
With a wild cry, Sidney turned upon him, caught the pistol from his hand and struck him in the face. Then he fell, fainting, upon

giant. He saw Sidney struggle to his feet and limp slowly along after his father and Tom, toward one of the little outhouses, and his blood boiled with indignation. Driving to the gate, he gave the reins to the coachman, and leaping from his carriage, hurried after them, while his little blue-eyed, golden-haired daughter, unnoticed, slipped from her seat and ran close behind him.

They reached the open door. Tom stood with his hands in his pockets, watching, while Col. Attwood lashed the helpless cripple with such a whip as was used for flogging the plantation hands. The arm was lifted for another blow. There was no time for thought. The stranger sprang forward, wrenched the whip from the drunken father, and before Col. Attwood could turn his head to see who had done it, he caught him by the collar and hurled him upon the floor at the opposite side of the room. Col. Attwood did not have time to move, when the stranger stood over him with the lash raised and fiercely demanded:

"Where is the mother of that child?"

"Dead," muttered the brute upon the floor. And the only thing which prevented the



breakfast-table one morning he spoke of the theft, and as an indirect suggestion to Sidney, he warned Aunt Cloe to have an eye on people who came into the office. To his utter amazement, Sidney came limping up to him that afternoon, his eyes swollen with crying. He held a few coins in his trembling hands, and sobbed:

"Oh, I am sorry that I stole the money, but I did."

The possibility of another mania flashed upon the village doctor's mind. His heart stood still for an instant. But he caught the little cripple in his arms, and never referred to the subject again.

Not long afterward, however, he discovered that a much larger sum had been taken from an iron box, the key to which he kept in a drawer of his desk. Aunt Cloe entered behind him at that moment, and without looking up, he asked if any one had remained long in the office that day. Instinctively, he almost asked her if Tom had been there.

"Lor' bress ye, mars doctor, how's I know?" she exclaimed. "I's been in de wash-shed all de day, a-washin' out de close. Is yoh been got some moh dat money stole outta de desk draw?"

The doctor shuddered, frowned and answered, "No," for, too late to stop her talking, he heard the thump of a wooden shoe, and knew that Sidney was behind her.

A sad and anxious face and a painful look of earnest inquiry in the great, black eyes were the only evidence that Sidney had heard. There was not the shadow of guilt in his conduct, but like a thunderbolt the conviction forced itself upon the village doctor that the little cripple would again confess the theft.

"If he does," he muttered, "it will not be true. It was not true before. I will find out this time, and what I find out will be that Tom is the one who has done it."

Several times that day he gave Sidney an opportunity to speak. He even took him out with him in the chaise. But while the burden on the cripple's mind was as evident as the day, he had nothing to say concerning the missing money.

The next day was a hard one for the doctor. He was kept at work from early in the morning, and with several distant calls did not return until after dark. He found Aunt Cloe sitting on the office floor, wailing as only an old negro woman can.

Sidney was nowhere to be found!

Lying upon his desk the doctor saw a letter, addressed to himself in the cripple's delicate hand. He caught it up and read:

You are my best friend. I did not suppose that I could ever steal from you again, but I think it is in me, and comes out when I don't know it. I cannot stay here and keep injuring you. I do not know how much I have stolen, but you must remember, for I am going to study medicine. I will be a great doctor and cure myself. Then I will come back to you and pay you, and show you how much I thank you for being so good to me. Your unhappy but loving

SIDNEY.

The village doctor turned to Aunt Cloe and asked:

"Was Tom here this morning, before Sidney went away?"

And as he anticipated, he received an affirmative answer. He did not wait to eat supper, but drove at once to the gray stone mansion at the four corners.

[To be continued.]

A SINGULAR ADVENTURE.

"Willow Creek" did not prove what my aunt, Judith Ware, thought it would when she read the name among a host of summer resorts in the "Travelers' Guide," and decided to spend a few of the hot weeks there.

"The name sounds cool. I think it must be a sort of a retired, rural place," she said, looking up, her finger upon the words, "Fine accommodations and excellent board at cheap rates."

"Probably there's a brook," she went on, "with willows all along the banks, and it will be so very nice, in hot days, to sit under their shade; and I think there must be some farm-house near, it says 'excellent board at cheap rates,' and eggs, butter, cream, berries and such like are cheap on a farm, you know. I think we'll go there, Kate."

And so we went, and found instead of a sylvan retreat a fashionable summer resort, and instead of the rural farm-house, three fine establishments not far from each other—the "Willoughby Mansion," the "Midlothian House" and the "Tourists' Rest." Aunt Judith chose to stop at the "Tourists' Rest," for the creek ran down through a field at the back of the house, and there was one magnificent willow and some other fine trees near it so the poor lady held to her determination to sit in the shade on hot days. She "would not be disappointed in that," she declared, if she "was in everything else about the place."

Our accommodations were the best and terms very reasonable, but Aunt Judith thought there were too many people and too much flirting and fashion for her. She was not contented, and our stay was shortened to scarcely three weeks.

We were sitting under the willow the morning before the day decided upon for our return to Hampden City. I had just finished reading aloud the last chapter of "Cudjo's Cave," and looked up, to see my aunt's eyes fixed very interestingly on a bush some little distance away.

Presently she said: "Is that a kitten frisking about over there? If it is, it is a black

one, and I must have it; I've tried to find one this long while. Go fetch it for me, Kate."

I went, and finally succeeded in capturing the little beast and conveying it to my aunt. She held him up and looked into his round, mischievous eyes. "He's a beauty," she said, stroking his fur, which was as black as the ace of spades. "Just what I've hunted so long for. I don't think the little creature has a white hair on him," and she repeated the couplet,

"A black cat, small or great,
Brings good luck, sure as fate."

"Now the question is, how shall we carry it home?"

"But suppose it belongs to somebody about here who would not care to part with it?" I said.

"You don't believe it does!" she exclaimed anxiously. "Of course, I wouldn't want to steal the little thing, but I must have it."

"And faith, mum, ef yer after loiken the small hastic, jist kape him," said a full, pleasant voice, and looking around we saw a woman approaching from the creek, a pail of water in each hand, and close at her heels a large, black cat and another black kitten, the exact counterpart of the one my aunt held.

"Oh, hless me! jet black and one of three! Could anything bring better luck? I'm glad I came here after all!" exclaimed Aunt Judith in an ecstasy, for she held strongly to certain old-fashioned superstitions concerning signs and omens.

The woman put down her pails, and stood with her hands resting upon her hips, staring at us. "Thank you, thank you very much, my good woman," said Aunt Judith.

"Yer entirely welcome, mum," was the answer, "hut yer wouldn't be afther givin' meself thanks ef yer knew the mischafe of the eraythur, and ef ye'd not take it amiss, mum, I'd be tellin' of ye ter kape an eye on yer chany and breakables when the little hastic is 'round, mum."

"I don't usually keep the cat in the chinaloset," said Aunt Judith with dignity.

"Oh, no offense, mum, no offense, I hope. I thought a word of warnin' might be summat help, but ye'll foind the lake in his manners full soon yerself, ter yer sorrier, me leddy," and picking up her pails as she finished speaking, the woman went on her way.

But never was there a truer prophecy. We did find out full soon that the "lake" in his manners was the most distinguishing trait in his character; in fact, most of them seemed to have "laked" out, and he was the worst behaved little specimen imaginable. But I anticipate.

Aunt Judith took the light shawl from her shoulders, and wrapping the kitten in it (for he was becoming quite at home with his claws), we started for the house. On entering our room she deposited the little animal upon the bed and gave it a ball of yarn to play with, while we busied ourselves, she with her packing, and I with a book I was anxious to end that night.

Presently she turned to me, saying, "I shall name kit 'Cudjo,' it will be so odd, and we can call him Jo for short."

Knowing her predilection for the story, "Cudjo's Cave," which I had that morning finished reading to her for the third time, I said, "Very good; and I think"—but what I thought was not told, for here came a crash that brought us both to our feet, and we saw that the kitten had leaped from a chair to the mantel shelf and sent a small mirror smashing upon the hearth.

"Oh, Aunt Judith, that lovely glass!" I exclaimed in dismay, adding, a little wickedly, "and breaking a looking-glass is one of the very worst of sigus, too."

"No bad sign to break this one," she said coolly, picking up the elegant plush and hammered brass frame. "There was some defect in the glass," she went on, "it made ou'e face look dreadfully plain. I've lost my temper almost, more than once, wondering if I was such a hideous fright as this glass represented me; it's a mercy it's broke," and she brushed the pieces of glass into the fireplace among the ashes.

I don't think my aunt's pet ever behaved so well before or since as he did on our homeward journey. Solitary confinement seemed to agree with him, and when we arrived at our destination in the early evening he emerged from the covered basket, where he had spent the day reposing on an old shawl, and looked exceedingly rousing as he traveled about inspecting his new home. But Mrs. Mills, the housekeeper, was destined to have her patience severely tried by my aunt's new pet.

Aunt Judith had inherited plenty of money, and she bestowed it generously on relatives, friends or neighbors, if she thought them needy. She never had many educational advantages in her youth, and was old-fashioned in many of her ways.

"It seems queer my having a housekeeper," she used to say, "when I was brought up to work and keep my own house, but I like to make pretty things and do embroidery and such like as well as the young folks." She never hinted that Mrs. Mills was without money or friends, and that besides giving her a comfortable home, she paid her enough so that she could lay by something for old age or a rainy day. But the housekeeper did not forget this, and endured Cudjo's misdemeanors with much good nature for his mistress' sake.

The winter months passed away, and Aunt

Judith's kitten grew famously. He was an inveterate and most persistent climber, mounting to the topmost shelves of bookcases, pantry or china-closet, whenever opportunity offered, and he never seemed quite satisfied unless his upward journey was attended with the fall of a book, the crash of a dish, or the downcoming of a tin pan or two.

I used to think if people only submitted as patiently and cheerfully to the dispensations of Providence as my aunt was wont to submit to the dispensations of that cat, there would be much less fault-finding and discontent in the human family, for notwithstanding the numerous tricks of the little black try-patience, I never saw Aunt Judith when she came near losing temper or forbearance but once. Chief and most highly-prized among her many articles of home adornment was a beautiful statuette of Flora, the goddess of flowers. She was crowned with a wreath of rosebuds and lilies, and held a basket overflowing with delicate blossoms of exquisite workmanship. Aunt Judith's youngest brother, a sea captain, knowing her exceeding love for flowers, had brought her this from some foreign country, and she valued it far above all her other treasures.

It was on our return from a short shopping excursion one forenoon that, on entering the parlor, we saw the lovely Flora dislodged from the bracket it was wont to grace, and Cudjo in contented glee pursuing the head around the room.

I stood speechless (as I usually did when witnessing some unthought-of work of devastation committed by the young mischief). Aunt Judith's face grew very white, and she looked the nearest angry that I ever saw her. But Cudjo came marching toward her, his black tail straight in the air, his yellow eyes placidly beaming as he loudly purred a welcome, and the good lady sank into the nearest chair, saying: "He didn't know the harm of it; no, he couldn't, and maybe I was making a sort of a little idol of that image. I did set much store by it for brother Ben's sake, and 'twas a beauty. Oh, dear! Well, pick up the pieces, Kate."

I did pick them up, and with the aid of some cement I put them together again, so that the charming goddess looked almost as well as new.

When I took it to Aunt Judith she exclaimed: "Did I ever! Well, well, the old lady isn't worth your taking all that trouble for! But I'm delighted; I declare I never should have known how much my niece cared for her old aunt if it had not have been for Cudjo. Puss did a good thing, a very good thing," and after that she insisted more than ever that whatever he did was for the best, somehow, and that the time would surely come when we should all see, for a certainty, that her black cat brought the best luck in the world.

And sure enough it did come; but it makes me shudder, and always will, to recall it, for although the experience was a combination of the terrible and the ridiculous, still the terrible predominated greatly, and left an ineffaceable impression upon my memory.

I was at that time spending several months with Aunt Judith, while my parents were taking a tour abroad for the benefit of my mother, who was quite an invalid, and our singular adventure occurred upon the May-day following our short sojourn at Willow Creek.

Surely, approaching summer could have had no more balmy and delightful harbinger than that eventful first day of May. I had been enjoying a drive with a few friends out to the adjacent country fields, and returned the middle of the afternoon with basket and shawl overflowing with the fragrant little flowers of the trailing arbutus. I found my aunt seated in the dining-room, busily with some bright silks and an elaborate piece of embroidery. As I came in she looked up with a most hearty welcome.

"I'm so glad you've got back, Kate," she said. "I was beginning to be dreadfully lonesome. James is away trying to find some one to help him about the garden, and for a wonder Mrs. Mills has gone out to tea; so we are all alone. Trim your flowers right here with me" (for I was going on to the kitchen). "Never mind the litter," she continued, seeing that I hesitated; "just spread out a paper and empty your flowers on it, and then trim and arrange them to your heart's content."

Aunt Judith's house stood in the suburbs of the city, and was built "cottage-style," finished very handsomely within and without, but planned, perhaps, a little more for convenience than for fashion or show. It was snug and cozy, and the kitchen, the pantry and the dining-room were contiguous.

I passed into the kitchen, and entering the pantry (which opened from it), I took an old newspaper from one of the drawers, and left the door ajar as I came back. If any one had told me, however, that this little act of carelessness would be instrumental in saving two lives, and one of them my own, I should have been exceedingly loath to credit it. Yet so it seemed to prove.

I spread my paper down near Aunt Judith, shook my flowers upon it, and was soon busily engaged snipping off the dry leaves and roots. We were chatting merrily, when suddenly Cudjo appeared upon the scene, every hair erect, a puff of anger and fright; he gave one wild glance behind him and fled into the kitchen.

"There must be some dog around; how queer

and big he looked," my aunt said, laughing. "I left the hall door open, the air is so fresh and delightful; you did not shut it, did you, Kate?" she added inquiringly. I had hardly given a negative reply, when—oh, how fervently I wished I had shut, and locked it, too—for a moment after we heard heavy steps along the passage, and then a tall, uncouth figure stood in the dining-room doorway.

"Are there any men folks about these premises?" asked a sharp, nervous voice. I think Aunt Judith must have been startled out of her usual presence of mind, or she would have evaded that question in some manner, but she answered in a dazed sort of way, "No, there ain't one."

At this the strange-looking being walked boldly into the room, closed and locked the door behind him, and stepping briskly across the floor, shut the door leading into the kitchen, turning the key in that also.

I had arisen from where I sat by my flowers. It was simply horrible to be fastened in a room like that, and I started for a window; but the man was there before me, and the look I saw in his wild, determined eyes warned me that any resistance would only make matters worse. I turned to Aunt Judith; she had regained her self-control, and evidently saw (as I began to) that in calmness and apparent unconcern lay our best chance for safety.

She made no attempt to speak or move, and directly our singular visitor placed his hat upon the table, and taking a chair, seated himself opposite us. "Excuse me, ladies," he began politely, "but most important business brings me here; I am in search of very valuable treasures. You have doubtless heard of this tremendous robbery, gold, precious stones, diamonds worth millions! All the world knows of their disappearance and half the world is searching for them, but I" (here his voice sank to a whisper) "yes, ladies, I am guided by invisible powers, directed by a supernatural agency, with the assurance that if I only obey this control I shall most certainly find all the treasure."

Assuming his natural tone, he continued: "You noticed I inquired if men were about these premises. Now, men are envious and avaricious, and sometimes use questionable means to thwart the advancement of those who are on the highway to fortune and prosperity. I am warned to avoid men, but the women—in women my help lies. They are so shrewd and obliging, so penetrating and secretive, they will not betray me. Now, ladies, if you please, I will proceed to take your depositions; in other words, to note down all the facts you may be able to give to aid me in this important matter," and he drew some soiled paper and a lead-pencil from his pocket.

His manner seemed that of a gentleman, but his dress was most peculiar, looking like a sort of hastily-assumed disguise. I felt sure the man was insane, and I was hurriedly trying to fabricate some kind of a story about the jewels and gold, which might pacify him, and give him the idea that we would be of help to him. But before I had time to speak, Aunt Judith most unfortunately said: "We don't know anything about your diamonds and things, of course we don't; how should we? But I guess if half the world are hunting for them, they'll get found."

The good woman spoke thoughtlessly, and had no idea of the fuse she was firing. The nervous, excitable, sensitive nature of the man probably detected a latent spark of ridicule in my aunt's words. Anyway, his whole demeanor changed, his eyes gleamed with an angry fire, and his hand trembled so that he could hardly hold the pencil, as he said fiercely: "So you are in league against me! You think others will find the treasure, and you talk as if you knew nothing of its whereabouts. You said 'we,' so both of you are in the vile plot to circumvent me."

Just then a faint scratching and rubbing was heard on the other side of the partition; he looked hastily about, as if unable to locate the sound. "Hark! hush!" said he, holding up his finger, "Hark! I hear the rustling of spirits' wings!"

I turned my face away, for unfortunate as our situation was, I felt strongly inclined to smile at the idea of mistaking Cudjo's claws for angels' wings.

He interpreted my movement to be one of attention, and said sternly: "You need not listen; you can hear nothing, it is only for me." Presently, thrusting paper and pencil back in his pocket, he went on speaking excitedly: "I hoped for encouragement and help. I expected information and advice. Why, the magnitude of this robbery can hardly be estimated, and I must discover the stolen treasure. I am directed there is only one way to deal with scoffers and enemies. It is to put them where they cannot deter me from accomplishing this great object."

He slowly drew a dark sheath or case about a foot long from under his old coat, and I knew, with a sickening fear, that it contained a weapon of some kind, which he must have stolen, and then I realized fully that we were at the mercy of a madman. He pulled out a knife resembling a short sword, and drawing the blade lightly over the back of his hand, he glanced at Aunt Judith with an evil look, saying:

"Now, madam, you are about to go where you will learn the vast importance of my mission; the powers beyond will teach you, and no one else can."

My aunt looked completely bewildered. I don't think she realized just what he meant to do until afterward; but what seemed to deaden her senses made mine all the more alert. I felt that something must be done at once. "Wait a moment, sir," I said, trying to speak very quietly, "the lady may have imagined you to be other than you are; of course, we would not wish to confide all we know to everyone."

He pushed the knife back in the case and turned eagerly to me. "True, true, I may be hasty," he said; "tell me quickly what you know, for I am no imposter. All I want is information and assistance."

All I wanted was time; something plausible must be said, something that sounded like truth, at least. Trying to think what was best, I inquired casually, "How far have you traveled this morning, sir?"

"From just where I started from, miss," he returned shortly, eyeing me suspiciously.

He evidently thought I still distrusted him, so I hastened to say:

"Oh, I was only going to ask if you were not hungry. I thought if you had walked far, you might be."

An eager, wistful look came over his face as he answered earnestly, "Well, victuals would taste good, miss."

With my heart beating wildly in the hope of release, I walked slowly toward the kitchen door, talking as I went. But he was watchful; stepping before me and drawing the key from the lock, he said:

"Ah, I see, I see, it is only a ruse to escape me, but you cannot do it." Hope deserted me when I looked in his stern, set face, as he continued: "I would not eat if you placed a feast before me. My work must be accomplished; my search ended, the gold and diamonds found, and then hunger can be satisfied. Come, miss, if you have anything to say that will help me find this treasure, speak quickly."

Somehow, with his keen, wild eyes upon me, I could think of nothing that I wanted to, or that would help matters, and I saw, as he waited, he was becoming momentarily more excited. Words cannot describe my feelings during the next few terrible moments. Then there came a perfect fusilade of tinware and crockery crashing down from somewhere.

The man whirled about and gazed on all sides of him. Then he looked upward and exclaimed: "Hark to the clashing of the armor of the shadowy host! It is a summons; I must go, ladies. It is a signal that news of the missing treasure has been received, and I am needed far from here. I will now—another crash came, and seizing his hat he fled precipitately from the house.

I hastened to lock every door and fasten every window. Then returning to the kitchen I found Aunt Judith standing in the pantry, surrounded by three or four tin pans and several broken plates, and Cudjo upon the top shelf, playfully shaking a small rat.

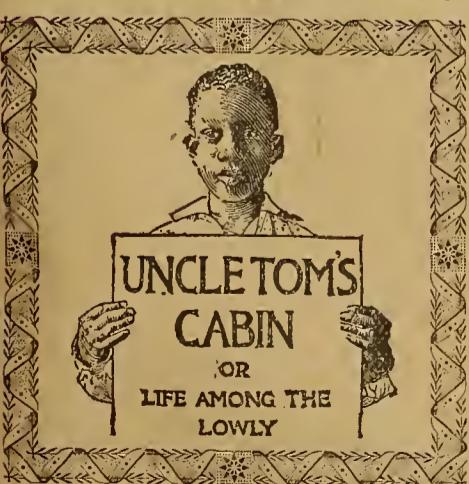
"He's got it," said my aunt, calmly, "the very one Mrs. Mills has been scolding about for a week past; but oh, Kate!" (and the expression of her face was indescribable) "didn't my precious black cat bring us luck?" I could not help thinking that if a cat of any other color had have created that unearthly noise just at that time, the favorable results under the circumstances would have been the same, but I did not breathe a word of this heresy. I was only too glad to give Cudjo all possible praise.

And when James came home an hour or two later and said the officers had just succeeded in capturing an insane man, who had escaped from the city asylum the day before, and that he was considered a very dangerous subject, I did not wonder that Aunt Judith stroked her cat's black fur very lovingly as he lay in her lap.

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It seemed an unusually sad case, however, as James went on to say that the cause of the man's insanity was that he had been unjustly accused of committing a very heavy robbery. Circumstantial evidence was strong against him. He was tried, convicted and sent to prison, but when his innocence was proved some time after, and the real criminal (a young forester) was discovered, it was too late to benefit him, as trouble and anxiety had unsettled his reason, and all he thought of was to recover some immense treasure which had been stolen, and to the discovery of which he was confident some supernatural influence was constantly guiding him.

KATE LOUISE SYDNEY.

A SIMPLE BAROMETER.

About the simplest barometer that one can have—and, it is said, one of the most efficient—is made of two bottles and some water. One of them should be an ordinary wide-mouthed pickle-jar, filled with water to near the top. The other should be a long, slim flask, which will go into the neck of the jar. This should be inverted and plunged into the jar, so that it will not reach the bottom. This arrangement gives a complete barometer. In fine weather the water will raise into the neck of the flask higher than the mouth of the pickle-bottle. In wet or windy weather it will fall to within an inch of the mouth of the flask.

THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER.

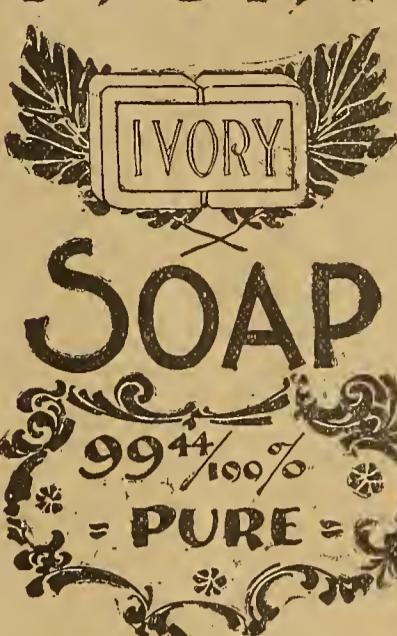
The *King-Pan*, or *Capital Sheet*, of Pekin, is the oldest newspaper published. It was first issued in A. D. 911, and appeared irregularly. Since 1351 it has been published weekly. It now has three editions daily; the early morning edition is devoted to commercial news and prices; the forenoon edition contains official and general news. These editions are printed on yellow paper; an afternoon edition on red paper is especially prepared for country readers. The daily circulation is about 14,000 copies.—*Presbyterian*.



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<p

Our Household.

THAT BROTHER OF MINE.

Who is it comes in like a whirlwind,
And closes the doors with a slam,
And before he has taken his hat off,
Calls out for "some bread and some jam?"
Who is it that whistles so loudly,
As he works at some tangle of twine
That will send his kite up into clondland?
Why, of course, it's that brother of mine.
Who is it that, when I am weary,
Has always a hole in his coat,
A button to sew on in a hurry,
A sail to be made for a boat?
Who is it that keeps in my basket
His marbles and long fishing-line,
And expects, undisturbed, there to find them?
No one else but that brother of mine.

Who is it that tiptoes about softly,
Whenever I'm sick or in pain,
And is every minute forgetting,
And whistling some head-splitting strain?
Who is it that when he is trying
To be just as still as he can,
Is always most terribly noisy?
My brother, of course—he's the man.

Who is it I'd rather have by me
When in need of a true, honest friend;
Who is it that I shall miss sadly
When his boyhood has come to an end?
And when he is far from the old home,
And I long for a glimpse of sunshine,
Whom, then, do you think I shall send for?
Why, of course, for that brother of mine.
—Agnes L. Pratt, in *Good Housekeeping*.

HOME TOPICS.

LENTEN SOUPS.—It is often inconvenient in the country to get oysters, clams or fish, but there are many nice vegetable soups that can take their place.

CORN SOUP.—Open one can of corn and empty into a shallow dish two hours before it is to be used. When ready to make the soup, chop the corn fine. Have a quart of hot milk in a double boiler, to which add the corn. Season with salt, pepper and butter to taste, and when the soup is scalding hot, add two beaten eggs and serve it at once.

MOCK BISQUE OF LOBSTER.—Put a pint of tomatoes over the fire with a slice of onion and five cloves. Let it simmer fifteen minutes, then remove the onion and cloves, press the tomatoes through a sieve and return to the soup-kettle. Put a pint of milk in a double boiler, and when it is scalding hot, add a tablespoonful of butter and a heaping teaspoonful of flour, wet with a little milk. When ready to serve, add a teaspoonful of sugar and a quarter of a teaspoonful of soda to the tomatoes. Remove the kettle from the fire and pour the milk into the tomatoes, stirring it all the time. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Many think a little dust of cayenne pepper improves this soup.



EASTER CALLING-CARD.

CROUTONS.—Slice some stale bread, butter it slightly, cut into half-inch squares, and brown them slightly in a very hot oven. Serve with mock bisque.

POTATO SOUP.—Peel, boil and rub through a sieve six medium-sized potatoes, one onion and four stalks of celery. Add to this enough hot milk to thin it to the proper consistency. Season the soup with a tablespoonful of butter and salt and pepper to taste.

VEGETABLE PUREE.—Scrape two carrots, peel four potatoes and one onion. Cut these vegetables in small dice, and also cut up one root of celery. Put two tablespoonfuls of butter in the soup-kettle, and when it begins to brown, add the vegetables. Let them brown slightly in the butter, stirring them all the time, then add a quart of hot water and a piece of red-pepper pod as large as a dime. Do not put in any of the pepper seeds. Let all boil together, adding water as it boils away until the vegetables are soft. Strain the soup through a sieve, rubbing the vegetables through, and return it to the kettle. Add a half teacupful of cream, in which you have stirred a tablespoonful of browned flour, and let it just come to a boil. Then season with salt to taste and serve with croutons.

POLITENESS.—I do not mean by this word the smooth manners that are sometimes assumed, but something more, the true politeness and gentle manners that come from an unselfish and honest desire to make others happy. William Wirt, in a letter to his daughter on "The small, sweet courtesies of life," says: "I want to tell you a secret. The way to make yourself pleasing to others is to show them that you care for them."

Many persons entirely without wealth, beauty or extraordinary talents often find an easy entrance into society and become favorites of all who meet them, simply because they have pleasant, winning manners.

The unrivaled fascination which Madame Recamier exerted on all who came in con-

NOVELTIES.

Having given before an illustration for a balloon match-receiver, we present another style, quite simple and attractive in all its details. This uses the little Japanese basket, into which a small tumbler fits so nicely.

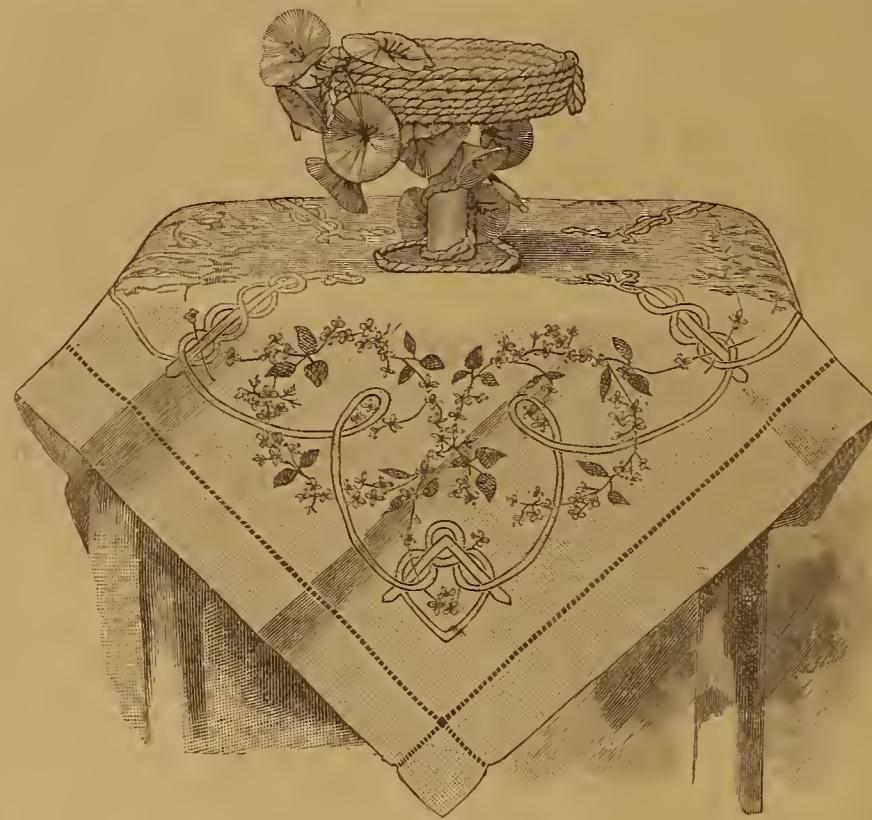
A thoughtful little gift is a booklet, made of a good quality of note-paper, with a water-color paper back, tied with ribbon, and a vine sketched across it; also "My Calling List" etched in fanciful letters. This would be particularly useful for a bride going to a new place, where the names would be new and a little difficult to place at first.

An artistic and thoughtful Easter favor is one's calling-card, with a silk cord drawn through holes at each end, covered with a satin ribbon doubled over it, and fringed at the ends, with a little scene painted on it, and "Easter Greeting," or anything else appropriate, painted on it. It can serve as a book-mark.

Although there has been a silence on the subject of bangle-boards, the one we present is of wood, padded and covered with satin, upon which is painted a swallow, and three brass hooks are put into the wood. While the button-hook, scissors and key-ring must be accounted for, the bangle-board must "hold its own."

A pretty linen table-cover is shown, with a hemstitched border and a conventional pattern, outlined in white silks, through which the trailing arbutus is woven, done in art colors. We can furnish this design if wished for.

Upon this sits another novelty in paper.



LINEN TABLE-COVER.

tact with her was the result of the genuine and unaffected interest she showed in the good and ill fortunes of her friends.

No adornment of beauty, learning or accomplishments attracts one as the fine and gentle breeding of those who never think of themselves, but only of the pleasure they can give to others.

Parents and others who have the care of the young are too careless and negligent in impressing upon them the value of a true politeness of manner. In the struggle for wealth and knowledge and power, the courtesies and amenities of polished and refined life are too much ignored. These are things which cannot be put on and off at will, but must be so much a part of ourselves and our daily life that they will be spontaneous. Cultivate unselfishness and a regard for the feelings of others, along with a proper training in the conventionalities of good breeding, and your children will be polite and courteous under all conditions and circumstances, and will have cause for gratitude through all their lives.

MAIDA McL.

BEWARE OF OINTMENTS FOR CATARRH THAT CONTAIN MERCURY

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. per bottle.

"PAPA WON'T BUY ME A BOW-WOW."

No, but he will send for a set of our World's Fair Views, if you show him how he can get them for nothing. See offer on another page.

NOVELTIES.

America. Once more we could hear the most beautiful of the wives remark:

"We have never been beyond these walls. Our servants tell us that our husbands' houses are more elegantly furnished than ours, but we have never been permitted to enter them. We are but beautiful slaves."



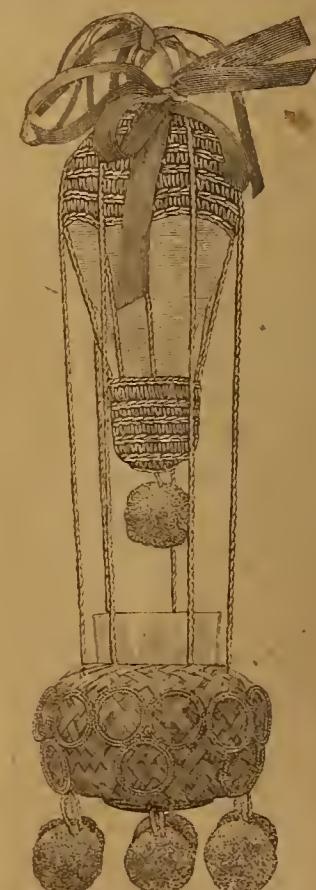
BOOKLET.

It is different with the Parsee ladies, however; they go about the streets unveiled and have free access to their husbands' apartments. Each evening the wealthy ladies from Malabar Hill can be seen, dressed most elegantly, riding out in state.

The Parsees, like the Hindus and Mohammedans, live after the old patriarchal style, each son bringing his bride back to the parental roof to live, new rooms being added as necessary. Each family has its own rooms, while a large and the open court is the common property of all. This room is furnished with chairs and tables and other furniture, according to the wealth and education of the father.

The native chairs are made of bamboo, and are shaped much like the "barrel chairs" that were so popular some time ago, though many of the Parsees are beginning to have them made after English patterns.

In this common room, in a house in Bombay, four cousins—their ages ranging from seventeen to twenty years—were wont to meet each Wednesday afternoon, to await the coming of the memsahib, their teacher. They formed a pleasing picture, dressed in holiday attire, the day I went with Miss Carroll to visit them. Three of them seemed very smiling indeed, but the youngest appeared to be indolging in a fit



BALLOON MATCH-RECEIVER.

of snubs. She remained standing, while the rest of us seated ourselves in their oddly-constructed chairs. When asked why she did not sit, she replied that her uncle (her father was away at the time) would not permit her to do so, as she had displeased him. During the lesson hour I noticed that she was the brightest of the four young ladies, and I mentally admired

her style of arranging her head-dress. The others had theirs drawn tightly over her foreheads, while hers was pushed back, disclosing a most becoming pompadour. She had evidently seen the hair worn so by some of our missionaries, and her looking-glass clearly revealed to her the fact that her hair in this way was very becoming. Presently a heavy step was heard. The door opened, her uncle entered, and going up to Ram Piari he said, "Be seated upon the floor." Then turning to me he said:

"Memsahib, I want you to command this girl to pull her *ehaddar* over her head so that none of her may be seen, for it is the mark of the greatest disrespect to her elders for her to have her hair exposed in that way."

After a little persuasion, the girl smoothed down her hair and pulled her head-dress over it. But I mentally said, "What a pity to thus spoil the appearance of that high forehead and golden-brown hair, all for a foolish custom." But India is full of foolish customs.

We are thoroughly American; hence, while in India must needs have a rocking-chair, and therefore directed a carpenter to make one. Not long after, the new head matron for the girls' boarding-school arrived. Coming into my room one day, she espied my rocking-chair. Going up to it, that she might the better inspect it, she said:

"Well, I've heard of rocking-chairs, but this is the first time that I have ever seen one."

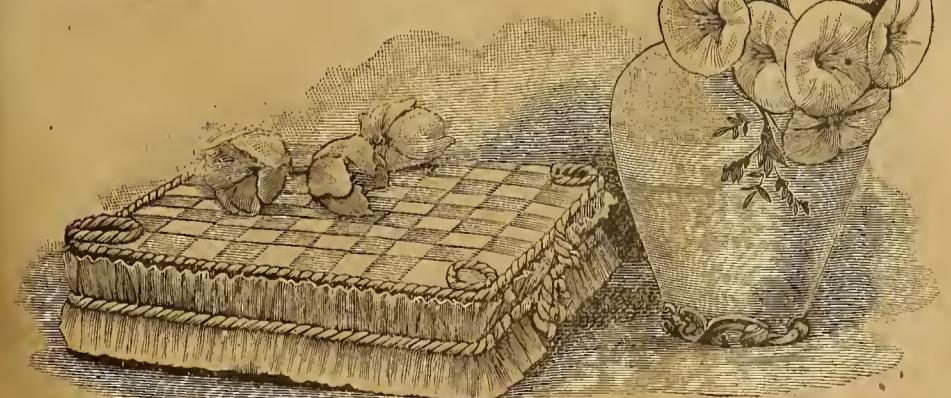
And she was of English parentage, and had spent several years in Great Britain.

The queerest of all the oriental chairs are the dolis and dandis, in which people are carried from place to place. I laugh now whenever I think of the little, box-like dolis completely filled with high-caste women and children, shut up tightly lest they might see or be seen by a man. Seclusion they must have; fresh air is not supposed to be necessary.

A most ridiculously funny affair occurred at the parsonage at Moradabad. One of the native teachers, who had but recently been converted from heathenism, called on some business relating to the school. He had doffed his dhoti and donned coat and pants. Being invited by the sahib to be seated, he refused, saying he preferred to stand. Knowing that his duties there would require two or three hours, the sahib insisted; but still he refused, saying:

"My new pant is too tight to sit down in. The knees will break through if I sit in a chair. If I become tired I will sit on the floor, native style."

He remained standing, however, during the entire interview.



PAPER FLOWERS.

That same day another teacher called, and after sitting upon the chair in a gingerly manner, said:

"Mayn't I sit upon the floor? I am not accustomed to a chair."

Even in many of the schools and churches the native pupils sit upon the floor. ELLA BARTLETT SIMMONS.

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The Art of Cake-making.

[CONTINUED.]

Having previously given merely an outline in regard to the subject of cake-making, I will in this issue enter into details concerning the art of making the class coming under the head of milk and butter cakes.

First in order of preparing the material is to get the flour ready. This, as has been previously stated, must be pastry flour, made from pure winter wheat. Sift once, for the purpose of removing the

beat all thoroughly, or until light and smooth.

In making the second, prepare the flour and the butter and sugar the same as for the first, then beat the yolks to a light foam, using any kind of a beater for this. As a rule, cake-makers do not beat the yolks enough, for the reason that they were never taught that it would make any difference in the quality of the cake. Simply stirring or mixing them up a little will not answer the same purpose. Add the beaten yolks to the butter and sugar and stir or beat until very light, then add milk and flour and stir or beat until light and smooth.

In making the third, the flour is first prepared, then cream the butter, sugar and yolks together until very light, unless more than three yolks are used, in which case it is better to beat these separately, and add to the creamed butter and sugar, and then stir or beat until very light. Then beat the whites until very stiff, and if cream of tartar and soda are used instead of baking-powder, add the cream of tartar to the whites, which makes them stiff and creamy and prevents them from breaking down, which they will do if thoroughly beaten without the cream of tartar. To the creamed mass add the milk, the whites of the egg and the flour, and stir or beat all in together until light and smooth. Never attempt to stir the milk in separately. This is a point well worth remembering, for if stirred in alone it is apt to separate the batter, when by stirring it in with the flour it saves time and produces a smooth batter.

All cakes should be flavored to taste. The flavor can be added to the butter and sugar, which will moisten it and help to make it cream easier, or added after the flour. As far as its retaining its strength is concerned, the latter way is preferable. All cakes will be better if made with cold material. The butter and sugar must of necessity be warm in order to cream easily, but if set in a cold place while the other material is being prepared will soon cool again.

Bake all cakes in ungreased molds, and when baked invert all loaf-cakes, excepting those containing fruits or nuts, and let them hang in the molds to cool. This will keep the cake from settling and make it much lighter.

All cakes should be placed in a moderate oven and allowed to raise to the required lightness before browning over. After they have raised, increase the heat and bake as fast as possible without burning.

We have tried to make this very plain, so that all our readers who are interested in the art could comprehend it, and learn to master it easily. But should there be any part that they do not understand, they can make the inquiry through the FARM AND FIRESIDE, and I will answer through the same.

In my next I will treat on the art of making angel, sunshine and the choicer sponge-cakes. MRS. C. A. CHAPMAN.

PAPER FLOWERS.

"I never saw such a woman as you are for flowers," said my friend Marion, coming in briskly from the frosty air, "but dear me, roses in February; really, you are too extravagant. How lovely they are—but, oh, dear me, why—they are paper!"

"Yes, not so extravagant as it seemed, but have they lost all their charm for you now that you know they are paper?"

"No, indeed; but what charming imitations they are! Where did you get the paper to have them appear so natural?"

"Well, it is a new kind. It is Japan paper, shaded in the sheet. It is used mostly for sweet-peas, pinks and tulips. Aren't these tulips perfect?"

"They are, very."

"And so easily made. Then, too, some of the shades are just the things for roses. The sheets are smaller than the other paper, at the same price, but it is so well adapted to the flowers we want to make of it that it is better than to buy the plain paper and tint it with water-colors.

"The shades, used properly, adapt themselves to the construction of a rose, making them vie with the natural ones.

"The sweet-peas are perfect as far as colors go, and a large bunch makes a very pretty decoration.

"The morning-glories are made of the crepe-paper, and the color-veins are put in with water-colors.

"Fine wire is wound with green paper for the stems, as they must be quite thin. Of course, you must not have too many of them, as that cheapens the effect."

"Well," said Marion, "these little adornments do brighten up home, and I think that is what we ought to do. What do you do with them when they fade?"

"The same as other flowers—destroy them. I never believe in keeping any decorations past their time. They are like everything else. When they have served their purpose I am through with them. I never could understand why people would keep shell-work, worsted-work, hair-work and all such things when their beauty is gone. Why not supply their places with something newer, something fresher and more in touch with these times? There never was a time when there was so much beautiful work to be done as now."

"It does me good to see quite elderly ladies busy with the most beautiful silk embroidery on linen, painting on china, and such work, instead of piecing quilts or knitting stockings. I know of several who do lovely and creditable work in both lines."

L. L. C.

A MAN MISSING

Our offer on another page will miss the best thing of the year. Our Portfolio is a rare work of art, and is the next best thing to a visit to the World's Fair.

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Our Household.

WAITING.

"Five years to wait!" Don't do it,
My innocent, blue-eyed maid,
For the years may last a lifetime
While your youthful roses fade.
While your eyes are red with weeping
And watching the treacherous sea,
Till you sing the song of the lone one,
"He never came back to me."

Five years to wait, while others
Are dancing the dance of youth,
And the one perhaps you are trusting
Is breaking his vows, forsooth!
"I shall wait for my love, my darling,
Who has sailed far over the sea,
Five years, or ten, or twenty,"
Said the blue-eyed maid to me.

So she wrote her sweet love letters,
Or tended her garden flowers,
Or watched the restless billows
On the beetling cliffs for hours;
While she turned her suitors pining
Away from the cottage door,
And waited, patiently waited,
One long, long year or more.

"Tis very weary waiting,"
Said the blue-eyed maid to me,
And she glanced at her last new suitor
And then at the restless sea;
As she glanced at the roses fading
In her garden fair and bright,
Twice come, twice gone, since he left her,
Two years before that night.

And she married her last new suitor
Before the winter sped,
And she wrote to her absent lover
On the day that she was wed;
She hoped he would not suffer,
That the shock would soon be o'er,
And the answer soon informed her,
He had married a year before.

A PRETTY JABOT FOR THE NECK.

The material for this is enough surah silk to make a small square, which should be hemstitched; any color that is desired. The one illustrated is pale blue. Then for a border make wheels from the following directions of letter A sewing silk, and use them as a border. The wheels should be made first, and the size of the center graded by them, either the width of three or four, as desired. Make the number for the two opposite sides first and then fill in the two remaining sides. The detail of these wheels will be found illustrated in February 1st issue.

ABBREVIATIONS.—Ch means chain or chains; st, stitch or stitches; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; tr, treble or trebles; lg-tr, long treble; *, repeat.

Group of threes:

First row—Ch 7, join with 1 s c, ch 4, 23 tr under loop of 7 ch, with 1 ch between them. Join in third st of 4 ch with 1 s c, and 1 d c in ch 1.

Second row—Ch 5, * 1 tr in next ch 1, ch 2, repeat from * twenty-three times. The last time omit the 2 ch, and join together with 1 tr in third st of 5 ch.

Third row—Ch 5, make 2 lg-tr (thread over hook twice), under tr that joined previous row. Counting 5 ch as 1 lg-tr, so there will be 3 lg-tr in all, keeping the last stitches of each tr on hook (now have 4 st on hook after the first group). Throw thread over and draw it through them all at once, ch 1, to keep them to place, ch 3, not counting 1 ch. Repeat all around, having 3 lg-tr in each group. After last group ch 1, and join to the first group of threes with 1 tr, 1 d c over tr to center the thread.

Fourth row—Ch 5, 1 d c under 3 ch, repeat all around, making twenty-four loops, fasten. Each wheel can be crocheted together with 4 loops of 5 ch, skipping 2 loops at the corners.

FOR FILLING.

A small star: First, ch 5, join, ch 1, 16 d c in loop of 5 ch, ch 8, 1 s c in loop of 5 ch on wheel, ch 5, * miss 1 st, 1 tr in next d c, ch 5, 1 s c in next loop of 5 ch, ch 5. Repeat from * all around, join in the third st of 8 ch, fasten.

ELLA McCOWEN.

MAKING WASH DRESSES, ETC.

Time was when the material for our summer gowns could not be purchased until the summer season had well nigh come; but enterprising business men now display the daintiest and most artistic of summer fabrics almost as soon as the holiday goods are out of demand.

Being able thus early in the season to select the requisite material, experience has taught me that it is best to make up, during the month of March, the most if not all of the clothing necessary for the coming summer. Beginning with the underwear, if it is not bought ready-made, following with skirts and night-dresses, finishing with the dresses. First, those for morning, lastly, those for afternoon wear or for visiting.

How we enjoy having a fresh, bright muslin or gingham all ready for wear when the first warm days come. How,

too, we usually dread to wash them on account of their shrinking, and instead of returning from the laundry "as good as new," find them far too tight and too short. Necessity being the mother of invention, has taught us how to make dresses so that they can easily be let out, and no one be the wiser.

In cutting the skirt of a dress that will shrink when laundered, allow one inch extra length. When the skirt is finished, take a tuck on the wrong side of hem of sufficient depth to take up the extra length; or if the skirt is finished with a ruffle, take the tuck on the wrong side of skirt so the seam will come under and be hidden by the heading of the ruffle. Allow for extra large seams for both shoulder

the mortification of wearing patched garments.

How many of the FARM AND FIRESIDE readers use light-weight flannel or tennis flannel for night-dresses? I have used tennis flannel for ourselves and children for three years, and never again expect to use muslin excepting in case of sickness.

They may be made plain or as fancy as one desires. They are so much more easily laundered than muslin, and if not lace-trimmed can, "in a pinch," go unironed and yet look very well. They are much cooler in summer than muslin, for being of open weave they allow the heat from the body to pass off much more readily than does muslin. In winter they seem much warmer, for being soft and fleecy they do not chill one as does muslin. It is the same price as muslin, ranging from eight and one third cents to fifteen cents a yard, according to quality, but as it wears so much longer than muslin, it is therefore cheaper in the end, and saves making as well as buying. These are only a few of its good points.

For every-day colored skirts for children I like it better than anything I ever tried. I get it also in a very heavy quality to make little jackets for the children to slip on of cool mornings and evenings during the summer while at their play.

CLARA SENSIBAUGH EVERETT.

GROWING TOMATOES.

Thinking that your readers might be interested in the manner in which I grew a tomato-vine eight feet in height, I have had an illustration made which, with the description I give, will make it very easy to understand. First, procure two poles three or four inches in diameter at the large end, and ten feet in length. Place them on the ground side by side, so they will be about twenty inches apart at the large end, and ten inches apart at the small end. Next, make some slats one inch thick by two or three inches in width. Nail one across at the top, another thirty inches from the large ends, and three more between, so as to be an equal distance apart. Then set firmly in the ground, and with a hoe or spade make a basin-shaped hole at the base of this ladder large enough to hold a pail of water. Set the plant in the center, and after it has got well rooted and stocky, say fifteen inches in height, it should be tied to the first slat and the hole filled with water several times each day. When it has grown pretty well up to the second slat you must push the vine toward the side on which the first slat was nailed. Then nail on a slat on the other side of the



TOMATO GROWN ON TRELLIS.

pole, and half way between the first and second slats. Fasten the vines to this slat, and as the vine keeps climbing upward, you must keep putting on slats, and fastening the vines to them. In this way you will soon have the woodwork completely covered with a dense growth of green vines and leaves, and such an abundance of fruit that will astonish you. I used the yellow plum-shaped tomato, but any vigorous sort with a large top may be used. The yellow fruit on my vines, growing in clusters, was very ornamental, and admired by all who saw them. Although not as valuable for general purposes as some of the larger red varieties, they make very fine pickles, and are very acceptable in the winter-time, with the thermometer at ten below zero, and snow to the top of the front fence.

FRANK FINCH.
Clyde, N. Y.

FLORICULTURE and KITCHEN GARDENING.

BEDS OF ANNUALS.

Oftentimes one is so situated that it is impossible to use the standard bedding plants, such as celosia, geraniums, begonias, etc., for that purpose, and reliance must be made wholly on annuals from seed, grown at home. The objection to this is often made that the plants are not uniform in size, so that a bed of mixed annuals is far from a graceful affair. Of course, this objection holds good with a miscellaneous collection, but if the species and varieties are selected with proper regard to the mature height of the plant, it may be easily overcome. Here are a few examples of what may be done in bedding with annuals. A bed, circular in form, can be made very attractive by having the greater portion of it of named varieties of petunias.

For example, select a first-class strain of single, mixed petunias for all of the bed except the outer edge; here leave sufficient room for a double row of the single pure white. Such a bed will be pleasing and as uniform as one could ask. Here is another.

A bed of dwarf nasturtiums made as follows: For the center use King of Tom Thumbs, a deep scarlet. The next two or three rows, according to the dimensions of the bed, plant with Pearl, bearing creamy-white flowers. The outer edge make of Empress of India, a scarlet sort with very dark green foliage. Another handsome bed is made solid with Empress of India, and is bordered two rows deep with sweet alyssum.

For a rather shady spot a solid bed of Torenia fournieri, a low-growing plant with bronzy-green leaves, bearing a profusion of blossoms of good size, sky-blue in color, with spots of a darker blue and a yellow center. This is one of the best of plants for bedding or for baskets and vases, and is used extensively by florists in preference to plants strictly grown for the purpose. Seed should be sown early in pans or boxes in the house, and the young plants set in the open ground after the weather becomes warm.

Phlox drummondii and verbenas are desirable plants for bedding, either separate or arranged with other plants. For vines, we have the climbing nasturtium, the moon-flower, morning-glory, Thunbergia, balloon-vine, canary-bird flower and cypress-vine, all annuals, and easily grown and desirable.

Surely, from the collections named, to say nothing of the half hundred other desirable annuals readily grown from seed, one ought not to be at a loss to know how to have a flower garden of great beauty.

BULBS FOR SPRING PLANTING.

Tuberous are again decidedly in favor, the Dwarf Pearl being the variety mostly used.

In parts of the country where but few plants can be set outdoors before the latter part of May, lovers of the tuberose should start the bulbs in pots in the house in March or April, transplanting to the open ground not earlier than June. By this method we may be assured of obtaining an abundance of bloom before frost in the fall.

The improvements in varieties of gladioli have been very great, some of the named sorts being most remarkable for size and markings. The named varieties are, however, quite expensive, though one can use a few of them for the center of beds composed of other plants. The mixtures now offered, especially among the light sorts, are equal to the named sorts of a few years, and for massing or bedding are fully as effective as the named sorts, while being much cheaper in price. Set the bulbs as soon as the ground is warm (about May 15th, as a rule), selecting bulbs of fair size and perfectly sound. A warm, rich and mellow soil will bring out the beauty of the flowers. As the plants grow, stake each one and tie the plant to the stake. This should be done by the time the plant is a foot high.

What shall we say of tuberous begonias? No one can question the beauty of the blossoms nor the desirability of the plant for pot culture. In outdoor culture there is much conflict of opinion as to the desirability of the plant. After several years of experimenting in this climate and soil (New Jersey, about fifty miles from New York City, soil quite sandy), I have come to the conclusion that tuberous begonias, to do well outdoors, must be bedded in partial shade. The experience of others near me accord with mine. One

of the finest beds in this vicinity last summer was located in a city park, and in considerable shade. Other growers have been successful in growing and blooming the plant under hot sun in an exposed situation. Notwithstanding this difference of opinion, tuberous begonias are worthy of extended culture for bedding purposes, and one will at least be on safe ground by planting them in partial shade. Save a few bulbs from your stock and pot them; they are perfect gems for pot culture.

Tigridias are worthy of a place in every garden. They bloom profusely through the summer and are very easy of culture. The blossoms slightly resemble a gladiolus in form, but are borne on the end of the flower stem, one to each stem. The characteristics of the blossoms are spots on backgrounds of a deeper shade of color.

Pavonia grandiflora, a high, bright crimson with yellow-mottled center; Grandiflora alba, white, with yellow cup spotted with crimson, and Grandiflora lilacea, lilac with purple and white spots, are all first-class sorts.

Millia biflora (Mexican star-plant) is very desirable for bedding. The flowers are pure waxy white, borne freely on the flower stalks, and are in constant bloom from early summer until frost. The bloom is very fragrant, and lasts, when cut, in water a long time. For a sunny spot the plant is especially desirable.

Among lilies, auratum, lancifolium, L. roseum, L. album and longiflorum may be planted in the spring in situations where they are to remain. They will bloom well the first season, and being hardy (protect lightly in the winter in the North), will increase in size and beauty with each succeeding year.

CLIMBING VINES.

Probably no class of plants has given more dissatisfaction, as well as satisfaction, than those coming under the common name of "moon-flower." The cause of dissatisfaction was generally due to the inferior sorts or varieties sent out by irresponsible seedsmen. For the most satisfactory results, the following varieties should be used:

Ipomoea Grandiflora hybrida (the true and original "moon-flower"), bearing immense white flowers opening in the evening and on cloudy days. The plant grows very rapidly, the foliage being thick and profuse.

I. limbata bears a rose-centered, violet flower edged with white. Not so rapid a grower as the above, but very desirable.

I. coccinea, also known as star ipomoea, is similar to limbata in its manner of growth, but its flowers are of a dazzling scarlet.

While I. "Heavenly Blue" and I. leari ("the blue dawn flower") do fairly well in selected situations and in good soil, they are more desirable as conservatory or greenhouse plants.

Tropaeolum lobbianum, or Lobb's nasturtiums, are more desirable as trellis vines than the ordinary tall nasturtium. The flowers and leaves are small, but are more compact and borne in great profusion from early summer until frost.

There are many other climbing vines of easy culture which may be grown from seed. Among the most desirable are balloon-vine, thunbergia, eypress-vine and sweet-peas.

For permanent use the list of hardy or half hardy vines is so large that one can obtain sorts to satisfy the most fastidious. Among the hardy flowering vines we have the favorite and fragrant honeysuckles, the charming wistaria and the beautiful elematis. Among recent introductions, the Clematis paniculata is most valuable. It has proved hardy as far north as Maui, and it also stands well the heat of the South. The flowers are pure white and very fragrant; they are borne in clusters and in great profusion. The vine is a strong and rapid grower, and unlike most climbing vines, is an autumn bloomer, rarely blossoming before the latter part of August. I can unhesitatingly recommend it for liberal planting.

The heavy Chinese matrimony-vine is desirable, especially for covering out-buildings. The manettia-vine is recommended for the same purpose and for trailing along fences.

For beautiful effects, probably the Ampelopsis Veitchii, or Boston ivy, as it is called, cannot be surpassed. It bears no flowers, but the delicate and exquisite formation and coloring of the leaves make bloom unnecessary. The vine is especially desirable for training over stone or brick buildings; it throws out delicate "feelers" covered with a gummy substance, which

enables them to cling closely to any rough surface. The leaves are a pretty green in spring and summer, while in the fall the changes in shades of color are as varied as the leaves of the maple-tree. The vine grows quite rapidly, and its growth is very thick. Entirely hardy, and will give entire satisfaction.

OLD-FASHIONED FLOWERS.

The old saying that "history repeats itself" seems to be as true of floriculture as of other things, for the tendency is toward a cultivation of varieties which we have learned to term old-fashioned.

Among annuals so largely grown in our "grandmother's garden," there is considerable call for such things as amaranthus, Antirrhinum (snapdragon), catch-fly, candytuft, sweet-rocket, four-o'clocks, zinnia, etc., while the rage for hardy perennials includes, among the good old sorts, larkspur, bleeding-heart, foxglove, day-lily, iris, forget-me-not, phlox, peonies, poppies, etc.

This tendency toward the cultivation of the old garden favorites is to be commended, especially with those who own the little real estate they occupy, for while

After the first two years, hardy plants require comparatively little attention, beyond the working up of the ground about them in the spring and the division of their roots after they get too large for the space you intend them to occupy.

With the wealth of floral treasures offered at prices within the reach of all, there seems to be no reason why every person with soil at their command cannot revel in flowers. In the majority of cases, the rules of culture are so simple and require so little effort to carry them out, that the results pay many fold for the labor expended.

PETUNIAS FROM SEED.

The last few years have witnessed improvements in the strains of petunias truly wonderful to those who were familiar with the old types which, for many years, were termed "very nice." The improvements seemed to have touched every desirable part of the flower, and we have gained size, form and markings which old culturists would not have dreamed possible. Nor is the improvement at an end, if we believe the statements set forth in some of the catalogues for the season now



PETUNIA.

no one will question the desirability of the soft-wooded plants, such as coleus, geraniums, heliotrope and the like, one can hardly get from them the pleasure which comes from the strong, mature growth of hardy perennials and other plants which

occupy the same bed year after year. Further, the wide range of adaptability of this class of plants enables one to beautify every part of the grounds, which is not possible with the plants used for temporary bedding. We do not mean to advocate the use of hardy perennials to the exclusion of other plants, for oftentimes no plant will answer our purpose as well as bedding plants. For color effects, the varieties of coleus are unrivaled, and for design work and the formation of distinct borders, the alternanthera is used to better advantage than any other plant. Combination beds of coleus, geraniums, caucas, caladiums, begonias and the like are more striking than beds of other plants could possibly be. The point, therefore, is that the best results can be obtained, taking the grounds as a whole, by the use of both bedding plants and hardy plants, and especially as we have said, for the reason that each can be used in situations not congenial to the other.

being received. This is truly an age of progress in floriculture, as in other things, and the beauties of nature in this regard are placed within easy reach of even scanty purses.

Our illustration is from sketches made of single types raised during the summer of 1893, from seeds labeled "Finest mixed fringed double." The result was about ten per cent of double blossoms, the balance single. While we expected a larger per cent of the double form, the beauty and variety of the single were sufficiently attractive to make up for the disappointment.

A strain of seed known as "Giant of California" is attracting the attention of petunia lovers, by the beauty of the blossoms. The flowers are large and unusually deep-throated, many of them beautifully marked and fringed.

Petunias are easy of culture, and by successive sowings of seed may be had in bloom from early June until frost. The class is only half hardy; hence, the plants for early flowers must be raised from seed started indoors. Be careful in sowing seed—which is very fine—to scatter it thinly, or the work of transplanting the young seedlings will be most tedious. Cover the

seed lightly with light soil, and afterward press down lightly. Water with a syringe or by shaking water from a whisk-broom, so that the seed will not be washed out.

GOOD THINGS TO TRY.

Lobelias of all kinds—Gracilis, blue and alba white, of the trailing kinds, suitable for baskets or vases; Crystal Palace compacta, dark blue and white; Gem, pure white. Use these kinds for borders or beds, or for massing by themselves. Sow seed indoors in March or April, and set out the young plants when the weather becomes settled.

Godetia deserves to be better known. It is one of our handsomest annuals, dwarf in habit and profuse in bloom; the blossoms are also very large. Duchess of Albany, white, and Lady Satin Rose, a delicate rose tint, are fine sorts.

If heliotrope in its perfect form and beauty is desired, grow it in the open ground. Have tried different varieties on different soils, and the best success was last year, with plants grown from cuttings set into the open ground about the middle of May, in moderately rich, sandy loam. The variety used was the old Nero, a rich purple, almost black. During the month from August 15th to September 14th, we cut from a dozen plants nearly two hundred blooms of large size. It was noticed, however, that cuttings taken from these plants were very difficult to make root, the majority of them failing entirely. A prominent florist who saw this bed—or rather, border—of heliotropes, remarked: "If you could grow such blooms as these under glass in winter, your fortune would be made." Have a bed of heliotrope this summer. Nothing will give you better results for the time and money expended.

A few of the large flowering Phlox drummondii will be a pleasing addition to the garden. For a mixed bed, the mixed varieties will answer nicely. The seed had best be sown in boxes indoors and transplanted to the open ground in May. This method will give a more uniform appearance to your bed than if the seed were sown in the open ground.

FERTILIZERS FOR FLOWERING PLANTS.

As a rule, stable manures are the best and most convenient fertilizers for use in the outdoor flower garden. Unless it is well cared for and properly worked and turned before using, it is not safe to apply it directly in the holes which are to contain plants. The better way is to thoroughly incorporate it with the soil when spading up the bed, working it in and fining it with hoe and rake.

There are several commercial fertilizers which are used for flowering plants when they are grown in pots, either indoors or out, but for open ground culture we prefer stable manures. On one occasion a member of the family, wishing to lengthen out the available supply of fertilizer, used for a bed of geraniums a lot of Mapes' complete fertilizer. How we did revel in geranium blooms that year, and what enormous plants we had; but when we came to take them up in the fall for storing during the winter, alas! we found no roots to speak of; the plants had been all foliage and bloom, and at the end of the season were practically worthless. Experiments since with several commercial fertilizers have convinced us of their value when plants are grown in pots, and the value of stable manures for open ground culture.

METHOD IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.

It is fully as easy to start right with the vegetable garden and have a full supply from the earliest to the latest, as to have only the medium to late sorts and then not of the best kinds.

The first thing to think of is the preparation of the soil, and this should be begun as soon as the frost and water is out of it, so that it may be properly worked. Have it plowed or spaded deep, well worked up and made fine, and you have made a great stride in the direction of success. As soon as the soil is in the right condition, look out for a warm day and sow the first lot of peas. Put in enough only for two or three pickings, but sow at intervals of ten days until you will have all the peas you want.

With radishes it is a good plan to make a first sowing quite liberally, and instead of making other sowings, simply drop a seed or two in at the time you pull a radish out, and you will keep up a good supply with little labor.

In lieu of a hotbed, a little space in the kitchen near the light and heat, and a few shallow boxes, will enable you to obtain plants for early setting of lettuce, peppers and cabbage.

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

THE GLORIOUS COMING.

Oh, weary laborers in the field.
Hope on and sing, nor heave a sigh;
The happy day is drawing near,
"The glorious coming draweth nigh!"

Work on and spread the precious news,
Proclaim it wide to low and high;
Be swift the Master's call to heed,
"The glorious coming draweth nigh!"

Gird on thy armor for the strife,
Go forth and on thy God rely;
Turn not, nor falter, but trust on,
"The glorious coming draweth nigh!"

Be strong, be true, go far and wide,
Till all shall Jesus magnify;
Be holy, spotless, like thy Lord,
"The glorious coming draweth nigh!"

Thee hasten to the harvest-fields,
The days are passing swiftly by:
The "little while" will soon be gone,
"The glorious coming draweth nigh!"
—American Messenger.

THE POWER OF CHRIST.

I AM the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same beareth much fruit: for apart from me ye can do nothing." (John xv. 5. Rev. Ver.)

When I was a student at Princeton, Prof. Henry had so constructed a large bar of iron, bent into the form of a horseshoe, that it used to hang suspended from another iron bar above it. Not only did it hang there, but it upheld four thousand pounds' weight attached to it! That horseshoe magnet was not welded or glued to the metal above it; but through the iron wire coiled around it there ran a subtle current of electricity from a galvanic battery. Stop the flow of that current one instant, and the huge horseshoe dropped. So does all the lifting power of a Christian come from the currents of spiritual influence which flow into his heart from the living Jesus. The strength of the Almighty one enters into the believer. If his connection with Christ is cut off, in an instant he becomes as weak as any other man.—T. L. Cuyler.

EACH DAY.

The Christian who is intent on serving God most acceptably will look upon each day as a fresh field of effort, a new campaign, to be entered upon with bright hopes and unfaltering purpose. Why should it not be made a little better than any previous day in his history, a little more free from defect, a closer approximation to that absolutely perfect day which it is the height of his ambition to present to his Lord? It will be in some respects a different day from any that went before. The temptations and opportunities will not be precisely the same. The outcome of its conflicts and varied experiences will be exceedingly satisfactory, or the opposite, according to the amount of watchfulness and will-power and wisdom that are put in. Let every day be attacked buoyantly and bravely; thus shall every night find cause for gratitude and cheer, and every added month shall bring us nearer to the great goal of a ripe and rounded character perfectly pleasing in the sight of the All Holy.—*Zion's Herald*.

TWO STRINGS.

An honest peasant surprised an infidel one day, who was jeering at him for believing the Bible, by the reply:

"We' country people like to have two strings to our bow."

"What do you mean?" inquired the infidel.

"Only this," rejoined the poor man; "that believing the Bible, and acting up to it, is like having two strings to one's bow; for if it is not true, I shall be a better man for living according to it, and so it will be for my good in this life. That is one string to my bow. And if it should be true, it will be better for me in the next life. That is another string, and a pretty strong one it is. But, sir, if you do not believe the Bible, and on that account do not live as it requires, you have but one string to your bow. And oh, sir, if its tremendous threatenings prove true—oh, think what then will become of you!"—*Christian Witness*.

Of all the visitors at the World's Fair there was not one but wished that he could retain those magnificent views. Of course, every visitor retains them in memory, more or less indistinct, but the camera retained them as real and natural as life. Our collection of over 200 photographic views of the World's Fair, as advertised on another page, is simply a marvelous sight. No one should fail to secure them. One full collection with descriptions and map will be sent free.

THE UNCERTAINTY OF PLANS.

A young countess in Hanover, Germany, was a noted unbeliever. She was especially opposed to the doctrine of the resurrection. Before her death she gave orders to have her grave covered with a slab of granite clamped to other stones, and on the stone should be engraved the following words: "This burial-place, purchased to all eternity, must never be opened." All that human power could do to prevent that grave from being opened was done. But a little seed found lodgment in a crevice of the stones that covered that body, and sprouted. The tiny shoot found its way between the stone side and the slab that lay on the top of the grave. It grew by degrees, and at last actually lifted the heavy slab, and forced the gravestones apart. Thus the grave was opened, after all, and that, too, without any miracle. A large tree growing there now attests the powerlessness of human plans. The people of Hanover are said to regard this grave with a kind of awe, feeling that it is a sort of prophecy of the great resurrection day that is yet to come.—*Sunday-school Times*.

THE DIVINE BIBLE.

I look upon the Bible as the book for the world, and I see its divine authorship as plainly as I see the authorship of God in the stars, which I know no human mechanic could have built in his work-shop and flung out into space; but when the critics pick away at the Bible, I say, "Well, it is no great matter; if it gratifies them it does not hurt me, and as long as all the universities in the world combined are not able to make another Bible that shall be so cosmical in its range of appeal, and so mighty in its power over men and women, over mind and heart and life, and over the growing civilization itself to which it ministers, I rest assured that this is God's book, and not man's—as certain as I am that this is his globe under my feet, and not something which human carpenters have builded."—*Rev. Dr. Storrs*.

HAVE YOU READ IT?

It is told of Franklin that at one time in Paris he was greatly ridiculed for his love of the Bible, and that he made up his mind to find out how many of the scoffers had read it. He informed one of the learned societies, of which he was a member, that he had come across a story in pastoral life in ancient times that appeared to him very beautiful, but he would like the judgment of the society upon it. On the evening appointed Franklin had a reader of finely modulated voice read to them the book of Ruth. They were in ecstasies over it, and one after another rose to express gratification and admiration, and the desire that the manuscript should be printed. "It is printed," said Franklin, "and is part of the Bible."—*Ram's Horn*.

ARE YOUR EYES ON JESUS?

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." In passing through a field it is difficult to pursue a straight course unless the eye is fixed upon some immovable object, toward which the person is moving. Persons lost on the prairies, having no land-marks, frequently wander in a circle for hours and sometimes for days without making any definite progress. If one moves toward some object, keeping that only in view, he will be very likely to make a straight path.

Christ is the mark for every Christian. Set your eyes on him and allow nothing else to attract your attention. If you do this you will make a straight path.—*The Firebrand*.

CURE FOR GRUMBLING.

In a love feast in Yorkshire a good man had been drawing out long complaining strains of experiences about his trials and difficulties in the way to heaven. Another, of different spirit, followed, who said, "I see our brother who has just sat down lives in Grumbling street. I lived there myself for some time, and never enjoyed good health. The air was bad, the house bad, the water bad; the birds never came and sung in the street, and I was gloomy and sad enough. But I 'flitted.' I got into Thanksgiving street, and ever since then I have had good health and so have my family. The air is pure, the water pure, the house good; the sun shines on it all day; the birds are always singing, and I am as happy as I can live. Now I recommend our brother to 'flit.' There are plenty of houses to let on Thanksgiving street, and I am sure he will find himself a new man if he will only come, and I will be right glad to have him as a neighbor."

—*Christian Witness*.

THE FARM AND FIRESIDE.

BIG JOB LOT OF SILK REMNANTS FOR CRAZY PATCH-WORK.

OWING to the hard times there has been dumped on the market an extra big lot of odd pieces of silk and satin that are just what ladies want for crazy patch-work. We cannot fortune in securing them cheap, and will give one of our special PANIC PACES to any one sending us for a three months' subscription to COMFORT the Prize Story Magazine. Three lots and an elegant piece of SILK PLATES contain 35 square inches, together with five skeins of elegant embroidery silk, all for 25c. postpaid; three 25c. lots for 65c., five for \$1.00.

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No. 2.—The pig expresses its gratitude.

(See No. 3, on page 17.)



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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Ground for Onions.—C. L. B., Mystic, Iowa, writes: "Will land now covered with hazel-brush make a good patch for onions? It is a dark, sandy loam."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—If well cleared, properly enriched and well prepared, I can see no objection to its use as an onion-patch.

Clover.—H. W. H., Franklin, Pa., writes: "I have planted some wheat and timothy and intend to sow clover in March. I can get some hard-wood unleached ashes at ten cents a bushel. I would like to know how many bushels I shall use to the acre."

REPLY:—Use about forty bushels per acre.

Fertilizer for Oats.—W. J. F., Deitz, W. Va., writes: "What commercial fertilizer, costing not more than \$20 to \$28 per ton, would pay best for oats, on a soil a mixture of sand and clay? I want to follow with clover."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I would try simple dissolved bone. Of course, it depends on the condition of the land what else may be needed.

New Onion Culture.—J. H., Savannah, N. Y., writes: "Please describe the new method of growing onions. I think it is called the transplanting system."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Grow plants in flats or beds under glass in February or March, and set in open ground in April or May. You find the particulars given in "The New Onion Culture" and "Onions for Profit," either work costing fifty cents.

Hand Cultivators.—C. R., Muncie, Ind., writes: "Please give name of best hand cultivator. There was one described in FARM AND FIRESIDE last spring as being the 'lightest and best.' I forgot the name and number of paper."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—I do not remember anything about this hand cultivator. I use the Planet Jr. and Gregory's finger-weeder, and would do without either for my purposes.

Poultry Feathers as Manure.—W. O. D., Upper Alton, Ill., writes: "I can get several loads of feathers from poultry-dressing houses for the hauling. Will they make good manure for watermelons to apply in the hill on sandy ground? How should they be treated? What is the best commercial fertilizer for the same crop?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Poultry feathers, probably soaked more or less with blood, will make a good manure for almost any crop. If I had them, I think I would put them with horse manure in alternate layers, and fork the whole over from time to time until well composted and reasonably fine. Then put a shovelful or two to the hill of melons, well mixed in with the soil. Use bone-dust, and perhaps tobacco-dust, in the hill, both as fertilizers and bug repellents.

Grain in Orchard—Field Peas.—M. T., Angola, Ohio, writes: "Is it injurious to grow oats in a young orchard?—Please give some information on field peas, when to plant, how much seed to the acre, how to handle them as a forage crop, etc."

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Whatever you do, don't sow grain in a young orchard. Better not attempt to grow fruits. Grain gives the trees a terrible set-back. Grow any kind of hood crops, peas, beans, cabbage, corn, potatoes, etc. If you manure well, these crops will do no hurt to the young orchard.—Field peas, especially as a forage crop, are not appreciated as much as they deserve. I like oats and peas for this purpose, sowing a bushel or a bushel and a half each per acre as early in spring as I can get the ground in order, and cut the crop before the oats are ripe, either feeding directly from the field, or curing and harvesting in the same way as we do hay. It makes the very best of feed. Oats and peas, in fact, are our chief reliance as a summer feed.

Coal Ashes as Manure—Management of Asparagus and Rhubarb.—H. K., Davenport, Iowa, writes: "Can sifted hard and soft coal ashes be used as a fertilizer for squashes and melons?—When should I dig and mulch my asparagus beds? My rhubarb is getting poor and thin. How can I renew my beds?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Coal ashes are worth next to nothing as fertilizer. Better use them as absorbents in closets, stables or poultry-houses. Then when mixed with manure and soaked up with urine, they become a fine manure for any crop.—Dig up your asparagus beds in early spring. If you have any fine, loose manure to mix in with the soil in order to make it loose and warm right over the crowns of the plants, it will be a good thing to put it on. Coarse manure, as a mulch, I would not put on until after the cutting season. If you wish to make extra applications in spring, you can give a dressing of nitrate of soda, say 250 pounds per acre. Probably your rhubarb beds are getting worn out. It takes high feeding and good care to produce fine stalks. If you apply plenty of good manure, and stir the ground well among the plants, a bed will last many years. Try resetting part of the bed in highly-manured soil, and continue heavy manure applications.

Alfalfa.—B. C. B., DeSmet, S. D., and D. L. G., Pierce, Ohio. Alfalfa is not as hardy as common red clover and will never supersede it in northern latitudes. It requires a rich loam with a deep, porous subsoil. It will not thrive at all on compact clay land with hard subsoil. It is a perennial, starts slowly, and requires two or three years to become well rooted, and is therefore not suited to a short system of crop rotation. It stands drought and heat much better than the clovers, is very nutritious and yields large crops. For hay it must be mown early, or just as it is coming into bloom. It should be sown alone in the spring about early corn-planting time on well-prepared ground. Fall plowing is better, but early spring plowing will do. Plow deep and harrow thoroughly and frequently until warm, settled weather. Thorough harrowing before seeding will destroy the young weeds, and leave the land comparatively clean. Alfalfa may be broadcasted or drilled in. The latter is the better way, as the seed should be covered from one half to one inch. For rich land, properly prepared, twenty pounds of good, clean seed an acre is sufficient. By the time the alfalfa is a foot or more high, the field may not look very promising. There may appear more weeds than alfalfa. Mow high, and take all off the ground. The alfalfa will immediately start up again. After one or two mowings it will be in full possession, if a good stand was obtained at the start. The seed can be obtained from any reliable seed firm.

VETERINARY.

* * * Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers. * * * Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given, through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to DR. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Ulcerating Noses.—L. H., Delta, Neb. Your hogs probably have been ringed, and now suffer from swine-plague, or so-called hog-cholera.

Probably Too Fat.—C. L. J., Mountville, Ohio. Your sows, probably, were too fat, and your pigs, in consequence, may have starved to death for want of milk.

Spells of Lameness.—J. C. W., South Sudbury, Mass. What you describe is probably due to a rheumatic affection that has resulted in more or less contraction of the tendons and ligaments. Still, all such cases require for a definite diagnosis a thorough examination.

Foot-mange.—J. R. D., Morris, Manitoba, Canada. Your mare, it seems, is affected with foot-mange. First, wash her legs thoroughly with soap and water. This done, wash them with a five-per-cent solution of creolin (Pearson) in water, and repeat this wash once a day for about a week or more. When you begin with the treatment, clean out the stable, particularly the floor of the mare's stall, most thoroughly, and provide clean and dry bedding. Also, clean curry-comb and brush, so from that source, too, no new infection may take place.

Bloody Milk.—M. A. H., Magazine, W. Va., writes: "I have a cow that had her calf last May, and has been doing well until a week ago. Then she gave bloody milk from one of her front teats for a few days. Now her other front teat gives bloody milk, and is obstructed by clots of blood. She is fed on clover and timothy hay, and some mill feed twice a day. We expect her to be fresh next April."

ANSWER:—Under the circumstances stated, it will be best to make the cow dry; not at once, but gradually. The udder, very likely, is congested, and the blood comes from ruptured capillaries.

So-called Scratches.—E. C. S., De Graff, Ohio. What you describe seems to be a case of scratches, or grease-heel. The sores can be brought to healing by applications, three times a day, of liquid subacetate of lead, one part, to olive-oil, three parts; but in cleaning the feet, no water must be used, and the horse must be kept in a stall with a clean and dry floor, and out of mud, manure and water. After a healing has been effected, the swelling, if it is not yet too callous, may be reduced by bandages during the night and exercise during the day. Bandaging must be commenced at the foot, and each time the bandages are put on or removed the swelled legs should receive a good rubbing.

Lost a Hoof.—S. D. D., Columbus, Ohio, writes: "A horse, four years old, cut his foot just above the hoof by getting it over a barbed wire, so badly that the hoof came off and a new hoof and frog came. The part above the hoof still bleeds some and hair does not grow. How can the hair be made to grow over these immobile sears? What will harden the new foot so he can stand work this summer on the road? The accident occurred in July, 1892, and the new hoof has been on about a year, but he limps when trotting."

ANSWER:—Horny scars will never produce hair. The horn of the new hoof is morbid horn, not normal, and, if at all, the horse can be enabled to go only by judicious shoeing. Whether good shoeing will be able to remove the lameness depends upon the condition of the hoof.

Superfluous Teat.—G. S., Tidioute, Pa., writes: "I have a cow that has five teats that give milk. The fifth one, which is very short, is right on the upper end of one of her hind teats, and when milking her the hand takes hold of the fifth one and causes the milk to run in the hand. It is only about one fourth of an inch long. Could there be anything done to heat it up while she is not giving milk? She is dry now."

ANSWER:—If such a superfluous teat is too troublesome, it may either be removed entirely by means of an elastic ligature at a time when the cow is dry, or the opening may be brought to a close by cauterizing the same with a stick of lunar caustic. In either case it is best to have the operation performed by a veterinarian.

Cutaneous Affection.—C. A. O., Jeffersonville, Vt., writes: "I have a mare, six years old, that has small pimples and boils under the collar where it rests upon the top of her neck. The boils break and run for a day or two, then heal up, and others come. Sometimes there is a large number at once."

ANSWER:—First clean the affected parts with soap and warm water, and after that apply, once a day, as long as the animal is not used, a three-per-cent solution of creolin (Pearson) in water. If the animal has to be used, substitute a mixture of lime-water and oil, equal parts, and apply it every time the harness or collar is put on and taken off, but see to it that the collar, particularly where it comes in contact with the horse, is at all times scrupulously clean and perfectly smooth and well fitting.

Probably Impaction of the Third Stomach.—R. P. D., Mansfield, Va. Your cow, it seems, died of impaction of the third stomach, probably caused by indigestible food, too rich in cellulose. The few leaves you sent me are insufficient to analyze the plant to which they belong, especially if one is not familiar with the flora of your state, nor with the popular names given to plants in every section of the country. In the Mississippi valley the term "ground-ivy" is applied to an entirely different plant (*Nyctaglomeria*). Still, the leaves do not look to me like leaves of a poisonous plant. You make a remark concerning "foul play," or in other words, poisoning. This is something that can, in most cases at least, be decided only by a chemical analysis. The poisons usually used for criminal purposes, however, act much quicker, become fatal in less than four days, and if cattle are poisoned outdoors, it is, as a rule, done by mixing the poison with salt. Besides that, the symptoms produced by all the more common poisons are different from those described by you. This, however, does not mean that poisoning is altogether out of the question. Your case, I think, would be a proper one for investigation for your agricultural experiment station.

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Toxemic Hemoglobinuria.—J. W. B., Franklin, Tenn. Your work-mules died of Toxemic hemoglobinuria, also called Lumbo-gravis, rheumatic paraplegia, spinal paralysis, azoturia, etc. As the disease is usually fatal, the treatment (even the best) uncertain and your mules are dead, a few hints in regard to prevention will be of more use to you (and to others, too) than a description of the treatment. The disease, as a rule, only affects animals in a good or very good condition and accustomed to steady work, if the same are kept idle, without any exercise, for a few days, and are then hitched up. Therefore, if such horses or mules have to be kept idle for one reason or another, it is advisable not only to keep them on a lighter diet during their idleness, but also to allow them, if possible, all the voluntary exercise they are willing to take. Further, as a rule, the first symptoms of the disease, consisting in knuckling over or unsteadiness in the hind legs, manifest themselves after the horses or mules are driven only a short distance; say a mile or two, or even less. These symptoms, unless the animals are given immediate rest, soon develop into more or less complete paraplegia, and thus the prospect of recovery becomes rather poor. On the other hand, if the animals are immediately unhitched and allowed to rest wherever they may be, as soon as the first symptoms make their appearance, and before paraplegia or paralysis develops, the prospect of recovery is much better. The prognosis is always bad if the urine is red or dark colored, or if the patients have been down, or unable to get up, for more than three days. Hence, it is advisable to stop work at once and to unhitch the animals as soon as the first symptoms are noticed. It seems that in your case the abnormally dark color of the urine, although undeniably present, escaped your attention. In the more severe cases the urine is apt to pass off drop by drop.

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GEO. E. GLINES, 42 West Broadway, N. Y.

No. 3.—A surprise.

(See No. 4, on page 19.)



Our Farm.

MY TURKEY FRIEND.

I HAVE one turkey on the farm that regards me with feelings of undivided admiration and undying affection. She is a young turkey-hen, with her first brood of little ones, and was very wild at first, but she, as well as the little ones, soon learned to come at my call, eat from my hand, and seem never happy when out of my sight. In fact, she seems to have profound faith in my power to protect her from all dangers, seen or unseen, and evidently thinks she could not manage to raise her brood of turkeys at all, unless under my immediate supervision.

There are generally a good many hawks flying around, but whether they have an eye on poultry or fish I am unable to say, for they frequently dart down to the river, which is very near, after fish; but the sight of a hawk is enough, and when she sounds her warning note and bolts for the door, while I almost fall over myself in my efforts to see what in the world is the matter now, and often get out in time to see perhaps a hawk, but more likely a crow or a harmless blackbird.

"For shame, Patty," I say, and then she clicks her brood out from their hiding-place, generally under the edge of the porch, in the grass, where nothing can be seen of them but their round, black eyes shining like beads, that watch our every movement.

One day they were wandering around over the grassy hillside, when suddenly I heard a terrified squall from Patty; looking out I saw her looking down at the ground, with her neck stretched to the utmost, her wings spread out and every feather on her body literally on end. She would look at the horrible object, then run screaming part way to the house, then back again, too much afraid to leave her babies to come all the way. I could not see anything but knew she was not making all that fuss for nothing; so I walked out where she stood, almost speaking, in her efforts to tell me of her trouble. Still I could not see anything, until, going very close, in a little hollow I saw something that made me jump as well as Patty. A great, glossy snake lying perfectly motionless, its eyes fixed on the little turkeys who stood huddled up together too badly frightened to move. I hurried away to get something with which to kill it, leaving Patty dancing around like she was possessed. I got the hoe and in my haste missed hitting the snake altogether, but leaving holes in the ground large enough to have buried it in. The third stroke, however, was a little better aimed, and the hoe struck his snakeship just behind the ears, as he had turned and was rapidly gliding away and put a stop to his wild career, but such a blow would have shattered the constitution of an anaconda, I am sure. At any rate the enemy was ours, while Patty stalked triumphantly around, showing no more signs of fear, even when I carried the snake to another part of the yard and partly hid it in the grass purposely to fool her. But since then she is worse than ever and talks to me through the screen door half the time, of the dangers of outside life, evidently preferring the inside, but there must be a limit somewhere, and I draw the line at the door; but often when the door or screen stands open, some big, glossy turkey stalks in perfectly fearless, for they know they have a true friend in

A. M. M.

FEATHERING OF COCHINS.

One of the evidences of purity in the Cochin fowl is that the shanks are heavily feathered on the outside down to the end of the toes, and the middle toes should be well feathered. When young, they are almost naked for a while, as they feather slowly, but when fully matured they are heavily feathered, which enables them to stand the cold well. They are excellent layers if not made too fat, and they should therefore be fed with judgment. As sitters and mothers, the hens rank higher than those of any other breed.

LOW PRICES.

Prices for poultry were lower this year, during the months of November and December, than for any corresponding months for a decade. It is due to the fact that so many persons are out of work in the large cities, and they could not afford to buy poultry. Eggs, however, hold their own in prices and sell readily. Broilers are scarce, and as soon as the frozen stock is gone, will bring good prices.

A PHYSICIAN TALKS.

THE REMARKABLE STORY AND AFFIDAVIT OF DR. LEWIS BLUNDIN.

AFFLICTED WITH PARALYSIS FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS—PRONOUNCED INCURABLE BY THE FOREMOST PHYSICIANS OF THE WORLD—A CASE OF WORLD-WIDE INTEREST.

(From the *Philadelphia Times*.)

Many survivors of our late war left the ranks unwounded, but with broken constitutions; an instance in point is Lewis D. Blundin, a resident of Hulmeville, Bucks county, Pa. In relating his experiences and what he had suffered in consequence of the hardships he had encountered Mr. Blundin said:

"I was born at Bridgewater, Pa., in 1841, and went through the war as private, sergeant and hospital steward in Company C, 28th Pennsylvania Volunteers. My service was active, and while in Georgia I had an attack of typhoid fever, which left me weak and a ready victim for future disease. My kidneys were then affected, and this finally developed into spinal trouble which lasted through my army service. In 1866 I was mustered out with an honorable discharge and entered the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia as a student. I graduated two years later with a diploma, but did not practice. At that time I was living in Manayunk. One day, after I had graduated, I was lying on a sofa at my home in Manayunk, when I felt a cold sensation in my lower limbs as though the blood had suddenly left them. When I tried to move them I was horrified at the discovery that I was paralyzed from my hips to my toes. The paralysis was complete, and a pin or a pinch of the flesh caused no pain. I could not move a muscle. I called in Dr. William C. Todd, of Philadelphia. He made a careful and exhaustive examination of my case, sounding and testing, and finally announced that my trouble was caused by inflammation of the spinal cord, and that I would likely have another stroke of paralysis. I consulted Dr. I. W. Gross and Dr. Pancoast, of Jefferson College, Philadelphia, with the same result. I called in Dr. Morehouse, of Philadelphia, who said that no amount of medicine would ever prove the slightest benefit to me.

"One day last September I decided to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I sent for some. I had always been troubled with a sort of vertigo after my first stroke of paralysis to such an extent that when I got out of my bed my head would swim and I had difficulty in saving myself from falling. My appetite was bad, digestive organs ruined and no assimilation of food. In addition to my many other ailments, rheumatism held a prominent place. By the time I had finished the first box of Pink Pills I was comparatively free from these minor ills. Relief followed upon relief with astonishing rapidity. First one ail would disappear; then another until the pills got to work upon the foundation stones of my trouble—paralysis. Before I had taken the six boxes of pills, I was sitting in my chair one afternoon, when I felt a curious sensation in my left foot. Upon investigation I found it had flexed, or in other words, become movable, and I could move it. From that time on my improvement was steady and it was not long before I was walking around on crutches with little or no discomfort. It was three years before taking the Pink Pills that I had been able to use the crutches at any time. My health is daily improving and I feel sure that Pink Pills have done me more good than all the doctors and all the medicine in the country, and as they are not costly I can easily afford the treatment."

Sworn to before me this 15th day of May, 1893. GEORGE HARRISON, Not. Public.

These pills contain in a condensed form all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood, and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' danee, sciatica, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effects of the grippe, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexions, that tired feeling resulting from nervous prostration; all diseases resulting from vitiated humors in the blood. They are also a specific for troubles peculiar to females. In men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of whatever nature.

These Pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., and Brockville, Ont., and are sold in boxes, at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, and are never sold in bulk or by the dozen or hundred.

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No. 4.—More of it. (See No. 5, on page 20.)

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Smiles.

THE CITY CHOIR.

I went to hear the city choir.
The summer night was still;
I heard the music mount the spire.
They sang: "He'll take the pil—"
"I'm ou! I'm on!" the tenor cried,
And looked into my face.
"My journey home! My journey home!"
Was bellowed by the bass.

"It is for the—it is for the—"
Shrieked the soprano shrill.
I knew not why they looked at me,
And yelled "He'll take the pil—"

Then clutching wildly at my breast,
Oh, heaven! My heart stood still;
"Yes, yes," I cried, "if that is best,
Ye powers! I'll take the pil—"

As I half fainting reached the door,
And saw the starry dome,
I heard them sing: "When life is o'er
He'll take the pilgrim home."

—North American.

LIGHTNING DIGS POST-HOLES.

THE man with the gingerbread was watching his neighbor laboriously digging post-holes.
"They didn't dig 'em that way out in Colorado where I lived," said he.

The neighbor, who was a hired man, dropped his patent "digger," looked around to see if his employer was visible, found he was not, and took a seat on the ground, ready to listen.

"How did you work it?" he asked. "By steam?"

"Steam?" said the man with the gingerbread. "Naw. Done it by lightning."

"Lightning?"

"Yas. You see, in the part of the state I was in they is no metals of any kind in the ground, and no trees. I've often watched the lightning cavortin' around in the heavens fer a hour at a time, jist achin' fer somethin' to strike at, but not bein' able to do so 'cause they wasn't nothin' it could take a start at—no attraction, you see. Well, one day I was a-sweatin' away, just like you would be if the boss was around now, when a old feller, that lived there before I come, come along and says he'd show me a scheme to save all that work. You can bet I was willin', so he sends me to the house fer a bag o' tenpeuny nails, and he plants a nail in every place I had marked for a hole. 'They is a storm comin',' says he, 'and if I hain't mistaken, she is a-goin' to do the job in one whirl.' I didn't say nothing, fer honest, I thought he wuz crazy, an' I 'lowed I'd better humor him. After he got all the nails planted he dragged me away to a safe distance an' told me to watch her work. Pretty soon the storm came along, with more thunder and lightuin' in it than you will see here in a month o' Sundays. Directly it got over them nails. Then—blif! blam! It went to pluggin' away at them there nails stuck in the ground, the most delighted lightnin' you ever see to get somethin' to shoot at. And ev'ry time she hit there was the neatest post-hole dug out you ever see. I did haft to trim a few o' em with a spade, but as a general thing they was as neat as a body would want to look at. Natur' is mighty useful if you know how to haandle her."—Indianapolis Journal.

HIS ARITHMETIC.

The kid was taking his first lesson in arithmetic.

"If you eat one apple now and one ten minutes later, what will that make?" asked the teacher.

"Two," responded the young mathematician.

"Then if you eat two more, what will that make?"

"Four."

"Then three more, what will that make?"

The boy hesitated a moment.

"Green or ripe?" he inquired.

"What difference is that?" asked the teacher in some surprise.

"A good deal," responded the boy. "If they're green, three more'll make me have a pain."—Detroit Free Press.

A MATTER OF DOUBT.

He was in a sad plight when they brought him into the house, shaking from an involuntary ice-water bath in the skating-pond.

"Johnny!" exclaimed his mother, aghast, "where have you been?"

The boy was silent.

"Why don't you answer?"

"'C-cause, m-mother, I can't exactly say."

"Why not?"

"'C-cause, I d-dunno whether I've b-been skatin' or s-swimmin'!"—Washington Star.

GOOD NEWS—WONDERFUL CURES OF CATARRH AND CONSUMPTION.

Our readers who suffer from Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption, will be glad to hear of the wonderful cures made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Broca Discovery. Write to the New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, and they will send you this new treatment free for trial. State age and all particulars of your disease.

ENTIRELY REASSURED.

She—"Oh, Jack! I'm so disturbed. I have just dreamed that burglars broke in the house and shot you."

He—"You are not superstitious about it, eh?"

She—"Yes. My old nurse always said the dreams we have by day come true."

He—"What stuff! Why, yesterday afternoon I dreamed the butcher presented his bill and I paid him."

LEARNING THE BUSINESS.

New boy—"I tried to sell a woman one of them cheap clocks while you was out, but she wouldn't take it, 'cause it didn't run."

Notion dealer—"How did she know it wouldn't run?"

"Cause I wound it up."

"You ain't got the sense of a last year's bird's nest. Them cheap clocks ain't meant to be wound up till the customer gets 'em home."

A DIFFERENT APPLICATION.

Elder sister—"Come, Clarence, take your powder like a man. You never hear me making any complaint about such a little thing as that."

Clarence Callipers (sourly)—"Neither would I if I could daub it on my face; it is swallerin' it that I object to."

COOKING-SCHOOL DESIGN.

Little girl—"Mothersays she's much obliged for the use of this dress pattern."

Woman—"All right, little girl."

Little girl—"And she wants to know if you'll lend her your pattern for sponge-cake."

AN EMBRYONIC HUMORIST.

Teacher—"Jimmy, what is the chief product of the Malay peninsula?"

Jimmy—"Malayria."

LITTLE BITS.

I cannot sing the old songs,
They heard the maiden say,
And then the guests with one accord
Arose and said "Hooray!"

—Washington Star.

She asked him to buy her a toque, But he promptly averred he was broque, So she bowed down her head, And most meekly she said:

"I'm sorry, my dear, that I spoque."

—Indianapolis Journal.

She—"He's no poet. Why, he makes 'how' rhyme with 'wood.'"

He—"No poet? Who but a poet could do that?"

A subscriber writes, asking the meaning of the "silent watches of the night." We answer with pleasure that they are those which the owners neglect to wind up before retiring.

"Would you call Dauber a number one artist?"

"Well, er—I should think from his luck that number thirteen would nearer describe him."—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

"Why does Mr. Spotts wear such short trousers?"

"Because they fit him. I asked him for a small loan, and he said he was so short his corsets made his head ache."—Truth.

Binks—"How is that revolution in Cuba progressing?"

Jinks (who reads the papers)—"It's all over." Binks—"You don't say! What became of the revolutionists?"

Jinks—"They were both caught, I believe."

"Would you call Dexter a poet?"

"No, sir. He is a riminal."

"A what?"

"Riminal. That's a word of my own. If a man who commits a crime is a criminal, I don't see why a man who commits rhymes shouldn't be a riminal."—Life.

The father of the family was acting temporarily and unexpectedly as host to the young man who was waiting for Miss Gertrude to come down.

"I see the tariff question is likely to come up in Congress this season in spite of everything," said the elderly party, with a praiseworthy effort to put the young man at his ease.

"Y-yes, sir."

"And there's likely to be some trouble, when they come to tea and coffee."

"Yes, sir."

"As to sugars," pursued the father of the family, warming to his subject, "I am not so sure. In the case of refined sugar, of course, it is not so hard to see what ought to be done. The trouble will come when they take up raw sugar. What is your idea, Mr. Spoonamore, as to raw sugars?"

"I—I think they ought to be cooked," ventured the young man.—Chicago Tribune.

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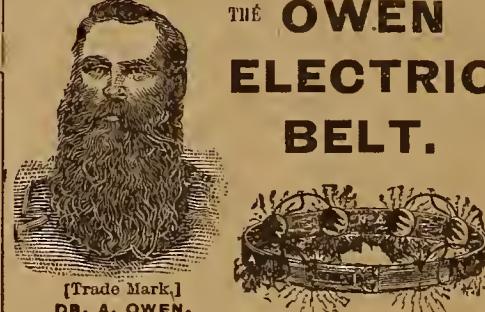
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Our Household.

HOME TOPICS.

RIED PARSNIPS.—If you wish your parsnips to be especially nice, try this way of frying them, which I have never seen published and have only just learned myself. Scrape the parsnips and parboil in salted water, then before putting them into fry, dip each piece in molasses, then fry as usual, and see if they are not pronounced by all who eat them as "the best parsnips I ever ate."



BRAN COFFEE.—A cupful of hot coffee, with plenty of cream, is relished by nearly everyone with their breakfast, but many of us cannot drink coffee without feeling some bad effect from it, and again good coffee is quite expensive. The following recipe makes a coffee which can be drunk by children, dyspeptics or any one, without any danger, and certainly from an economical point of view it is a success: Moisten two quarts of wheat bran with a teacupful of New Orleans molasses, mixing and rubbing it well together until all is moistened alike. Brown it in the oven as you would brown green coffee, and then use it the same as any coffee. A little coffee may be mixed with it if it is not liked clear; one teaspoonful of coffee with five of the bran will make three cupfuls of coffee. There is a hygienic coffee composed entirely of cereals, which may be bought at twenty cents a pound, but nearly everyone likes the bran coffee just as well, and it costs about two cents a pound—not counting the trouble of preparing it.

PANDOWDY, OR APPLE-SLUMP.—A New England friend who was visiting me during the holidays, in talking of old-fashioned dishes, said: "Do you ever make apple-slump?" I did not know it by that name, but when she told me how she made it, recognized an old friend I had been familiar with when a child, under the name of pandowdy. It is a good, wholesome, old-fashioned dish, by whatever name called, and is made as follows:

Pare, quarter and core enough tart apples to fill a deep earthen pudding-dish heaping full; stew them with as little water as possible until about half done, then season them with molasses, cinnamon and butter. Put them in the pudding-dish and cover with a crust made of short biscuit dough, rolled a half inch thick. Bake this in a slow oven about an hour, covering the top



BONBON-BASKET.

if the crust is liable to get too brown. Break the crust in small pieces into the apple, stir it together and put it back in the oven for another half hour. Do not have the oven very hot. This can be served hot or cold. When cold it should be of a jelly-like consistency.

TALKING ABOUT CHILDREN IN THEIR PRESENCE.—The wise parent will not do this, either to repeat the cunning ways and bright sayings of her little ones, or to speak of their faults or shortcomings. Very little children will notice when they are

being talked about, and in the former case will have their self-esteem unduly fostered, in the latter will he unnecessarily hurt and mortified. Often the parents who flatter their children by repeating their sayings when they are little, are the ones who are mortified when they are older by public reproof for faults their own course has induced. The child cannot see why sayings and actions which he has heard talked of as bright and funny are now frowned upon, and although hurt and mortified, he seeks to hide it by a sullen and obstinate temper. It is only through loving sympathy, a watching for little peculiarities of mother and little suggestions of father's character cropping out in our child, a remembrance of the feelings and fancies of our own childhood and a prayerful dependence on the guidance of the all-wise Father, that we can hope to lead our children through childhood and youth to a pure and noble manhood and womanhood.

MAIDA MCL.

OAK-LEAF EDGING, CROCHETED.

ABBREVIATIONS.—Sh, shell; ch, chain; st, stitch; tr, treble; d c, double crochet; s c, single crochet.

There are two rows of shells. Crochet the row with the edge on first, and the row with heading on next, crocheted all opposite the first row, joining the first and second rows of shells together with 1 s c in each loop of 5 ch. Also, each oak leaf has five ferns, and when crocheting the second oak leaf, join the first fern to the last fern of the first oak leaf, where the fourth row is joined.

First row—Ch 16 st, 1 s c in seventh st, miss 3 st, 1 sh (3 tr, ch 1, 3 tr) in next st, miss 3 st, 1 s c in next, ch 5; turn.

Second row—1 sh in sh, ch 11, 1 d c in sixth st of ch, * ch 5, 1 d c in the same st; repeat from * four times, making five loops of 5 ch; turn.

Third row—* 1 d c, 5 tr, 1 d c in 5 ch; repeat from * five times, making five ferns, and join first fern to the loop of the first row. 3 d c on first 3 st of next 5 ch, ch 2, 1 sh in sh, ch 5; turn.

This completes one oak leaf.

Fourth row—1 sh in sh, ch 2, join in middle of last fern, ch 3, 1 sh in sh, ch 5; turn. Repeat from second row for length required, and at the end, after 3 ch of the fourth row. Omit the rest, and put 1 s c in each st of the last sh.

Ch 20 st. 1 tr in fourth st, ch 2, miss 2, 1 s c in next st, miss 3 st, 1 sh in next st, miss 3 st, 1 s c in next, ch 2. * Join to the first loop of 5 ch of the first row of sh, ch 3; turn.

Second—Tr on second tr, ch 2, 1 sh in sh, ch 2. Join to next loop of 5 ch. Repeat from * in first row for the length required, and at the end, after 2 tr and 2 ch, crochet 1 s c in each st of the last sh, ch 4 and join to first st of the foundation ch.

THE LOWER EDGE.

First row—* 1 tr in second st of first fern, keeping last loop on hook, 1 tr in second st of next fern. Crochet all loops on hook off as 1 tr, (a) 1 picot, (ch 5, 1 d c in first st of ch), 1 tr in center st of second fern, 1 picot, 1 tr in same st, 1 picot. Repeat from * three times, and also repeat from * to (a) once. Repeat from first * for length required.

ELLA McCOWEN.

BONBON-BASKET.

One of the many beautiful articles which can be made from crepe-paper, and which would be suitable for a gift to a friend at all seasons of the year, is a bonbon-basket.

The cut represents one made of violet crepe, the lid covered with paper violets. Cut from white, medium cardboard two oblong pieces, eight inches long and three and one half inches wide, and two a trifle larger for the lid. Cover smoothly one large and one small piece on one side with crepe-paper, and the other large and small pieces on one side with the crepe, slightly puffed. This is done by drawing the fingers across the grain a couple of times. Now paste the small pieces together, and the large pieces also, and put under a press.

You are now ready for the rope, of which the basket is made. Cut across the crepe twenty strips two inches wide, very

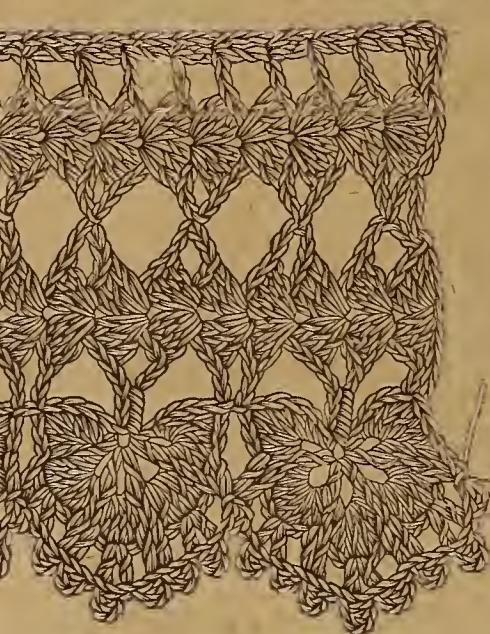
even and straight, in order to have a nice, smooth rope. Paste with good, stainless paste that will dry quickly (such as comes for the purpose, and can be purchased at the book-stores) these strips together, lapsing just enough to hold securely. You now have one long string. With assistance, twist this as for cord, taking care to twist enough before doubling. After doubling, twist again and wind tightly around the hand. You will now have a firm rope to build the basket with.

Join one end of the rope neatly and securely to the small piece of cardboard already covered for the bottom. Paste the rope around and around, pressing it firmly together, until it is six rows high. Care must be taken to keep the sides straight.

Now fasten the lid by means of very small paper cord inserted through the rope of basket middle of one side of the lid, and tied on top in pretty bows. This acts as a hinge.

Cut three strips of paper two inches wide, for the handle. Before twisting, put a piece of fine wire, one half the length of the paper when gummed together, and twist, double, twist and double again. This makes a firm, thick handle. Paste this very securely on the outside of the basket, on each side of the middle, pressing it tightly to the rope of the basket.

Now the basket is ready for the decoration. Make a small bow of paper ribbon cut across the crepe, and paste on the lid in the center. Surround this with violets made from tissue-paper No. 123, 68A and 62, using olive-green No. 9 D for the stems and leaves. Cut your paper into squares



OAK-LEAF LACE, CROCHETED.

of one and one half inches, and fold twice, in order to make eight lobes. After cutting on the dotted lines, take two of these and place one inside the other, so the lobes or petals will alternate; pinch together from the center, attaching the stem—a narrow strip of olive-green, cut about one eighth of an inch wide and six inches long, twisted as you would lamp-lighters. When dry, open with some dull instrument and slightly curl the petals, some outward and the center ones inward. Arrange the different colors, some without stems, over the lid and a few on the bow, pasting them in place. O. M. SMITH.

FOR THE LITTLE FOLK.

The patron saint of Valentine's day is the merriest, brightest little saint on earth. His name is Cupid, and one day out of the three hundred and sixty-five he claims for his very own.

This day, the fourteenth of February, is a combined Christmas and Fourth of July celebration to him. Many sleepless nights has he had throughout the year, when wild pranks have been contemplated, wild schemes made or rhymes evolved which no one could write but Cupid himself.

There is no dependence to be placed upon the little fellow. He does just what you don't expect him to do. But there is one nice thing about him, after all—he is not a bit particular in what circle of society he moves.

Everyone knows him, and somehow everyone has a sneaking regard for him. That's Cupid.

There's another good thing about him—he has learned to perfection the secret of making other people happy, and he's back of all the jolly little messages and pretty little cards which are flying around just at this time.

At no time during the year does he receive so many smiles and so much attention as on St. Valentine's day. On almost

every valentine a picture of his chubby little self may be seen.

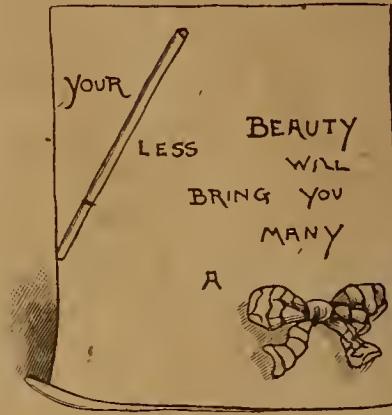
There are valentines of every kind this year; many of the inexpensive ones are bright and pretty. This valentine is apt to make the children laugh; there is such a funny little darky's face on a plain white card. The darky is holding up in his small, black hands the soles of two big shoes, and here is the verse that is written below:

My heart and all this to boot;
My sole adores the precious one,
Oh, come and heel my woes!
Your Valentine.

Another valentine represents in shape and color a large watermelon. The melon opens, and within is the verse:

Two souls with but a single thought;
Two hearts that beat as one.

Another represents a little colored girl



in a field eating a melon almost as large as herself. Under the picture is written:

Massy sakes, don't I love you!

A valentine easily made is of thick, rough paper cut in the shape of the sole of a shoe. On the outside, with a drawing-pen is written in gilt letters, "A Whole-souled Confession." Within are love verses, original or not, just as the sender may choose.

A rather novel home-made valentine is a heart cut out of thick, white paper. A yellow paper pumpkin is its only ornamentation, and underneath are the words, "My heart is as full of love for you as a pumpkin is full of seed."

Sometimes the cards are tinted and the tie matches it in color. With the lettering in gilt it makes a pretty valentine.

An odd affair is a card of thick, rough paper. A match is tied in one corner and a bow of ribbon in the other.

Another white paper heart has in one corner a net made of wire, and caught in its meshes is a tiny spider. This is the verse written in gilt:

Love that hath one in his net.

A valentine which the girls are making this year is a plain white card. At one side is a small "fond-in-hand" satin tie. The verse is appropriate:

Blest be the tie that binds.

A dainty valentine is made in this way: Cut out of thick paper two large hearts. Cover them with light blue silk, then cover the silk in turn with bolting-cloth. Sew together and paint a vine of blue forget-me-nots around the edge of the heart. In silver lettering write the words:

Greetings loving, greetings true,
To them, deat, they're all for you.

A pretty valentino card is in the shape of a bottle of perfume. It opens, showing a pretty verse inside. A dainty sachet to be sent as a valentine is a pink silk heart perfumed with the fragrance of the rose. Upon the outside is a rose made of ribbon, and peeping out from the petals is the pictured face of the sender. In gilt letters are the words:

In every heart, as all the world knows,
Cupid is hiding under the rose.

A present which makes a nice valentine to send to a little girl—and a big girl, too, for that matter—is a box, in the shape of a heart, filled with dainty bonbons. It should be tied with ribbon and accompanied by the old but good sentiment, "Sweets to the sweet."



Valentine book-marks are made of broad bands of violet ribbon, with dark purple pansies painted upon them.

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COLUMBIAN FOUNTAIN. A magnificent picture of this beautiful fountain at the head of the Grand Basin.

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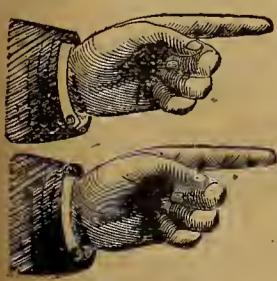
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“J-10 Elegant Everblooming Roses, 10 kinds.....
“K-8 Grand Large Flowered Geraniums, 8 sorts.....
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ASPARAGUS, Barr's Mammoth, giant, good qual.
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CABBAGE, All Head, large, sure header.
CUCUMBER, New Everbearing, early, productive.
CORN, White Cory, earliest, best, sweetest.
LETTUCE, Grand Rapids, best forcing.
MUSKMELON, Netted Gem, unsurpassed quality.

15 PACKETS Choice Flower Seeds, including such sorts as Crozy's Canna, Sweet Nicotiana, Etc.

All the above, (best outfit for a complete vegetable and flower garden ever offered)—20 full packets choice vegetables, and 15 packets rare flowers in a box with our new Book on Summer Gardening by mail postpaid for only 50c. Send for it. Address, J. J. BELL, Flowers, Broome Co., N. Y.

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On the farm used to mean fifteen long hours. Now-a-days, with the PLANET JR. Labor Saving Farm Tools, a farmer can do as much work in less than half the time, and do it better—have plenty of time left for other things. The PLANET JR. Book for 1894 tells you just how it's done. It places you 20 years in advance of old-time methods. Tells you the secret by which others have become successful. If you are working for profit, you can't afford to do without this book. We send it free. S. L. ALLEN & CO., 1107 Market St., Philada.

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WHITE VICTORIA ONION. Famous for the large size it attains. One packet each of the above Five FAMOUS FORDHOOK Vegetables would cost 60 cents, if selected at retail from our catalogue, but we include the five packets in our Famous FORDHOOK COLLECTION for 25 cents, postpaid, to any address. On each packet is printed an illustration, together with our registered trade-mark and directions for culture

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This collection is entirely new, and embraces seeds of ten easy-growing annuals of real beauty, that should be in every flower garden. It contains one full-sized packet each of the following:

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W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.



No. 7.—Great transformation scene.
(See first 6 numbers on inside pages.)



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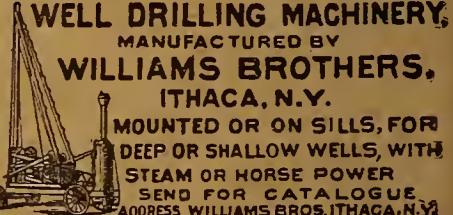
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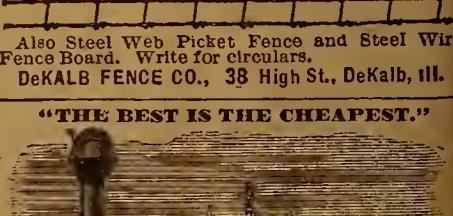
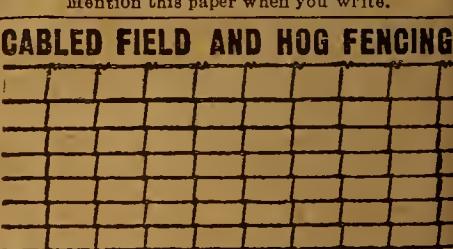


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WARM & FIRESIDE

EASTERN EDITION.

Entered at the Post-Office at Springfield, Ohio, as second-class mail matter.

VOL. XVII. NO. 11.

MARCH 1, 1894.

TERMS { 50 CENTS A YEAR.
24 NUMBERS.

INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS.

The Circulation of Farm and Fireside
this Issue (March 1st) is
300,000 COPIES.

The statement of the past three months is as follows:

December 1,	500,000
" 15,	250,400
January 1,	300,200
" 15,	300,400
February 1,	400,000
" 15,	300,300
A total of	2,051,300
Average per issue,	341,883

Estimating at the usual average of five readers to each copy, Farm and Fireside has

One and a Half Million Readers

Farm and Fireside has More Actual Subscribers than any other Agricultural Journal in the World.

OFFICES:

927 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.,
and Springfield, Ohio.

Topics of the Time.

THE WAGES OF LABOR.

In some things history certainly repeats itself. In 1844, fifty years ago, the Baltimore *Clipper* said: "The most inveterate opponent of the tariff will not avow the sentiment that the wages paid for American labor should be reduced to the European standard; and yet, such would be the result if the protective system should be abolished—that is, if the laborers of the United States can obtain employment at all, which is at least doubtful. We know that thousands were unemployed in 1842, when the duties were reduced to twenty per cent, who would have been glad to have accepted even the price paid in Europe. 'Experience is a severe teacher,' and we presume that none of our mechanics or manufacturers desire to have the lesson of 1842 repeated. If they do, they have only to lend their aid to secure the repeal of the present tariff, and they will again have the opportunity to take their fishing-tackle to the wharves to supply dinners to their families. The difference between the prices paid in Europe and in this country for labor of various kinds may not be generally understood, but the fact must be evident to all, that without the tariff the manufacturers and mechanics of the United States cannot successfully compete with those of Europe unless wages in this country be reduced to the European standard."

How familiar this sounds. Compare it with some of the discussions on the same question in the papers of to-day. With the change of a word or two, the article of 1844 could not be distinguished from one of 1894.

The writer proceeded, just as is done to-day, to give a statement exhibiting the American and European prices for labor of various kinds, artisans, mechanics, day laborers, etc. Although half a century has made little change in his argument, it has made a gratifying change in his list of the wages of labor. Even after a reduction of twenty-five per cent, the wages of 1894 are considerably higher than those of 1844.

THE HASKELL BILL.

The Ohio Wine and Spirit Association has published and distributed resolutions against the enactment of new liquor laws adopted at its recent annual convention. This liquor organization has unintentionally rendered the cause of temperance good service. Its bold and threatening attitude will arouse the friends of temperance to renewed efforts to secure more effective legislation against the evils arising from the traffic in intoxicating liquors. One of the bills to which this liquor organization particularly objects is the Haskell bill, now pending in the Ohio legislature. The bill is one for straight local option for counties, cities, wards of a city, incorporated villages, and townships outside of the limits of any city or incorporated village. The main section reads:

SEC. 1. That the question "shall the traffic in intoxicating liquors as a beverage be prohibited" shall be submitted to the qualified electors of each and every county and of each and every voting precinct therein in the state of Ohio at the next general election held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November and at the corresponding election every second year thereafter. Notice that such question is to be submitted shall be given by the sheriff of each and every county in the state in his proclamation of said general election required by law.

Said question shall be printed on all the ballots below the several lists of the candidates for office with a blank space on the left of each question in which to give each elector a clear opportunity to designate his choice by a cross-mark as follows:

Shall the traffic in intoxicating liquors as a beverage be prohibited?—Yes.
Shall the traffic in intoxicating liquors as a beverage be prohibited?—No.

Section 6 requires druggists to keep a register of sales of liquors upon prescription open to public inspection. The remainder of the bill relates mainly to its working plans.

The most notable feature of the bill is the provision for a biennial vote on the question of saloon or no saloon in every voting precinct in the state. Agitation, perpetual agitation, of the liquor question is purposely provided for.

OF MAKING MANY BOOKS THERE IS NO END."

The *Publisher's Weekly* records the publication during 1893 of five thousand one hundred and thirty-four works, an increase of two hundred and seventy-two over those recorded in 1892—the most active year the book trade has known. It gives the following summary on the book production of 1893:

"There are more novels published than any other kind of literature; and more English and other foreign novels than American; short stories were plentiful from both English and American authors; many translations were made of the best works of the French, German, Spanish and Slav novelists of the day. Next in figures come theology and religion, juvenile works, law, education and language, literary history, poetry, biography, political and social science, description and travel, history, etc. But as all these departments are increased in numbers by new editions of old works and new editions of standards, and also by reprints and importations, we take them in our review according to the importance of the number and standing of the new works added.

From this point of view the department

of political and social science was second to fiction in interest and also in activity.

It was influenced, no doubt, by the extreme and widespread interest manifested during 1893 in every phase of the tariff question and the financial problems which disturbed the country. It embraces monographs without end, written by authors the most opposite in views, and bearing upon theories the most conflicting. Needless to say, it is almost entirely made up from the contributions of American writers. Biography we have rated third in richness and freshness; it includes the most delightful class of literature our writers produce. Frank and spontaneous and with a sincere literary quality, the biographies of the year constitute a class of works of permanent value; they are mostly from American writers, the English works of this class, of which a number were issued, being almost altogether importations; the translations included here were the cream of French biographical literature, with a few German books and one Italian. Theology and religion counted fourth in importance, in place of second as in former years; the additions to it were not notable, and the larger number were by American writers. Here, likewise, the English works came out in limited imported editions; there were very few reprints. Description and travel was less noteworthy in its additions than in former years. Literary miscellany was larger in numbers than in actual importance. History did not show a single important work on an American subject by an American author. Poetry amounted to nothing. Physical science embraced an unusual number of good works from American and English writers. Except in the department of fiction and biography, no demand was evident for the work of English or other foreign authors."

WHEAT CROP OF 1893.

The January report of the department of agriculture estimated the wheat crop of 1893 at 396,000,000 bushels. The *Cincinnati Price Current*, one of the most reliable trade journals published, regards 450,000,000 bushels as a moderate estimate of the crop; this is 54,000,000 bushels above the government report. It characterizes the government report as the most faulty one ever offered from the government bureau. The question whether the department has underestimated the crop of 1893, as it did in 1891 and 1892, is to be investigated. The senate has adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, A number of leading commercial newspapers, like *Bradstreet's Weekly*, the *Cincinnati Price Current* and many others, persistently dispute the reports of the agricultural department relating to the yearly wheat crops of this country and its estimates of the amount of wheat in this country at different periods, usually largely increasing the quantities beyond those published in the reports and estimates of said department; and

WHEREAS, Such printed statements from unauthorized sources largely control the market price of wheat, and thereby reduce its price to American wheat producers, to their great injury, if the reports and estimates of the agricultural department are correct; therefore,

Resolved, That the secretary of agriculture be and is hereby directed to send to the senate at his earliest convenience:

1. A statement of all the wheat, including the visible and the invisible, there was in this country March 1, 1893, together with the entire wheat crop harvested in this country during that year.

2. The amount of wheat that has been used for food and seed purposes between March 1, 1893, and February 1, 1894; the amount of wheat that will be required for like purposes in this country between February 1 and July 1, 1894, together with the amount of wheat and flour as wheat that has been exported out of this country since March 1, 1893, with the surplus available for export between February 1 and July 1, 1894, after deducting the above from the estimated surplus March 1, 1893, and the entire wheat crop of that year, according to the latest information and most reliable experience found in his department.

The resolution courteously assumes that the department's figures are correct, but it will lead to a searching investigation of its methods of crop reporting. If the department's estimates are correct, the price of wheat has been depressed by the statements in the trade journals, greatly to the injury of the producers. If the journals are right, the department is responsible for the disappointment in prices which the producers have suffered. The forthcoming report will be read with interest.

WHEAT AND SILVER.

The fact that wheat and silver recently touched very low prices at the same time, has brought forth another flood of arguments on the silver question. Statistical tables of prices are republished with the object of showing that silver and wheat have maintained a parity, that they rise and fall together, and that an ounce of silver always purchases the same quantity of wheat. In the arguments based on the tables given, little or no attention is paid to supply and demand, production and consumption. The accuracy of the conclusions is invalidated by this omission, but a fair use of the same tables would make it impossible to reach these conclusions at all. The statistical abstracts of the United States, published by the treasury department, give the annual average export price of wheat each year back to 1817. When the prices of wheat for the years following 1870 are compared with the prices of silver bullion for the corresponding years, the theory of parity between silver and wheat finds some support. It is this part of the tables of prices that is used.

But when we examine the complete table of wheat prices running back to 1817, we find that there is no connection or relation whatever between silver and wheat. For a period of nearly sixty years, beginning with 1817, the price of silver remained practically stationary at about \$1.30 an ounce. During the same period the price of wheat varied frequently and considerably, showing such extremes as \$2.25 a bushel in 1817 and 67 cents in 1827, 86 cents in 1845 and \$1.85 in 1856. In some years an ounce of silver could buy three pecks of wheat; in others, seven pecks. Silver was constant; wheat varied from year to year. The parity theory is a myth. The complete tables of prices show that the price of silver did not depend on the price of silver bullion. Only when a comparatively small part of the statistics is given does the parity theory appear plausible. Handled as unfairly, statistics could be made to show that the more silver dollars the government had in the treasury and in circulation the lower the price of wheat.

The complete table of wheat prices running back to 1817 is found in the thirteenth number of the statistical abstracts of the United States. Some of the earlier and later numbers give the table running back to 1866 only.

FARM AND FIRESIDE.

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Silver, when sent through the mail, should be carefully wrapped in cloth or strong paper, so as not to wear a hole through the envelope and get lost.

Postage-stamps will be received in payment for subscriptions in sums less than one dollar, if for every 25 cents in stamps you add one-cent stamp extra, because we must sell postage-stamps at a loss.

The date on the "yellow label" shows the time to which each subscriber has paid.

When money is received the date will be changed, which will answer for a receipt.

When renewing your subscription, do not fail to say it is a renewal. If all our subscribers will do this, a great deal of trouble will be avoided. Also give your name and initials just as now on the yellow address label, don't change it to some other member of the family; if the paper is now coming in your wife's name, sign her name, just as it is on label, to your letter of renewal. Always name your post-office.

We have an office at 927 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., also at Springfield, Ohio. Send your letters to the office nearest to you and address

FARM AND FIRESIDE,
Philadelphia, Pa., or Springfield, Ohio.

The Advertisers in this Paper.

We believe that all the advertisements in this paper are from reliable firms or business men, and do not intentionally or knowingly insert advertisements from any but reliable parties; if subscribers find any of them to be otherwise we should be glad to know it. Always mention this paper when answering advertisements, as advertisers often have different things advertised in several papers.

Honduras Lottery Company. Since the note on this subject in another column was written, important action has been taken by the United States post-office department. As the result of an investigation into the legality of the Honduras Lottery Company in its relations to the postal service the postmaster-general has issued "fraud" orders against the president of the company and others connected with it. Postmasters at certain named cities are prohibited from delivering registered mail, or making payments on money-orders to certain named persons or firms connected with the lottery company. Post-masters are also forbidden to certify money-orders payable to persons connected with the company outside the United States. The department will also take steps to prosecute persons connected with the company for violating the lottery law. The way of this transgressor has not yet been made hard enough.

The Vineless Yam. A recent bulletin of the Texas agricultural experiment station says that the Vineless Bunch yam and the Early Bunch yam are one and the same variety; that it originated in Mississippi in 1884, and that it is probably a sport of the old-fashioned yam. As to the value of the new variety, the following testimony is given: The Vineless is beyond question a great acquisition in sweet potatoes. It has a short, stubby vine, which seldom grows over two and a half feet long. It can be planted closer in the rows, cultivated and dug easier than the running varieties. The tubers grow in a bunch near the surface. It stood the drought better here last season than the other thirty varieties (tested at the station), and ranked second in yield. The table quality ranked equal to the best when dug. It produces slips abundantly. The tubers are smooth and rather above the medium size.

In regard to the value of sweet potato vines the bulletin says: "Farmers usually allow the tops to decay on the ground. They make an important feed for stock, and especially for dairy cattle. This is true in particular of the tops of the Vineless, which remain green during very severe droughts when grass usually is scorched and killed by a burning sun and dry winds. Since they grow in bunches, and stand up well, they can be cut with a mowing-machine and put up like regular forage crops."

Government Report on Farm Animals. The estimates of farm animals for January, 1894, made by the department of agriculture, indicate a decrease in the number of horses, as compared with January, 1893, of a little less than eight tenths of 1 per cent; an increase in mules of about nine tenths of 1 per cent; an increase in milch cows of nearly four tenths of 1 per cent, and in oxen and other cattle of a little less than 2 per cent. Sheep, in the interval between these dates, have suffered a numerical loss of nearly 5 per cent, and hogs have fallen off in numbers nearly 2 per cent.

In prices, horses have declined 21.9 per cent, mules 12 per cent, milch cows have remained almost stationary, but with increasing tendency, while oxen and other cattle have lost 3.8 per cent. There has been a decline in the price of horses throughout the country, excepting in the states of Rhode Island and Idaho. The range of prices is from \$15.80 per head in New Mexico, to \$95.43 in Rhode Island, the average being \$47.83. The price of milch cows has advanced in some sections, but the decline in other parts of the country has so nearly offset the increase that the average for the country remains at about the figures of 1893.

The decline in the price of sheep has been considerable in the past year, notwithstanding the decided decrease in numbers. Hogs have also fallen in price, but there is every appearance of rapid recovery. A comparison of the numbers and values for two years past is presented as follows:

Wool. A careful canvass of the situation, says the *American Sheep Breeder*, shows the wool clip of the United States for 1893 to have been 364,156,666 pounds, or 26,656,666 pounds in excess of the largest yield reported in any prior year. Of this large output, 64,000,000 pounds were taken from slaughtered sheep. The number of sheep slaughtered during the year is forty per cent greater than in 1892, and the price of wool at the close of the year thirty-three per cent below the prices realized in 1892, or the lowest in the history of the country. The last three items in the above summary are a rather dismal commentary on the promises of better times so freely dispensed by the advocates of free wool in the tariff-reform canvass of 1892.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.

NO MILLENIUM YET.

The world is certainly getting better all the time. In consideration of this steady, onward move, we can easily get reconciled to the apparently slow rate of progress. If we plant a tree, we may watch it hour after hour, or day after day, we will not be able to see it grow. Yet it grows, and when in ten or twenty years we compare the stately tree, and its far outstretched limbs laden with precious fruit, with the branchless whip which we planted at the start, we can get an idea of what has been achieved in so short a time. And still the growth continues, and the tree gets larger and larger. Thus it is with the progress of the world toward civilization. We may not see the change from day to day, but it occurs just the same, and becomes apparent

CONRAD! CONRAD! CONRAD!
CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

In accepting the presidency of the Honduras National Lottery Company (late Louisiana Company), I shall not surrender the presidency of the Gulf Coast Ice and Manufacturing Company.

Therefore, address all proposals for supplies, machinery, etc., as well as all business communications, to

**PAUL CONRAD, — Honduras,
Care — Express,**

Florida, U. S. A.

Here we have an instance of the great power of evil influences, and the up-hill work which the world is engaged in on its march to progress. This lottery company has swindled the people of the United States out of many millions of dollars a year. They have been enabled to do so by appealing, as many swindlers do, to a prominent weakness of the average human being. People know that for every dollar the company receives it returns only fifty cents. Yet such is their love to "take chances," or to give the goddess Fortuna an opportunity, that they are only too willing to pay to the concern ten or twenty million dollars a year, and to take in return just half as much. It was to be expected that the company would not relinquish its hold on the people's pocketbooks without desperate efforts of resistance. Now see how cleverly it advertises its business without giving the authorities of the United States a chance to interfere. It looks to be an advertisement of the Gulf Coast Ice and Manufacturing Company. In reality it is an advertisement of the Honduras National Lottery Company (late Louisiana State Lottery Company), giving their place of business in Florida, and the express company by which they can be reached. I have omitted both the name of the town and that of the express company, in order to avoid giving this concern still more advertising. I believe that the ad which the daily papers are now making over the discovery of the company's doings in Florida, giving full address, will be welcomed more than feared by the company. Possibly it is the very best of free advertising for them. They must know, however, that public opinion in the United States is against them, and while yet able to defy it, in the end they will have to yield. The world is moving on, and its onward march is inimical to lotteries and trusts and bosses and corruption in the high as well as in the low places.

WRONG-DOING UNDER PROTECTION.

There is a limit to people's endurance and toleration. Petty swindlers may escape notice for a long time, and continue unmolested. But when the wrong becomes glaring, or the swindlers impudent, or trusts too greedy, or parties too corrupt, the people will be heard from with a force that is convincing. Unfortunately, however, petty wrong-doing is frequently under silent protection.

Last summer a stranger, with his wife, happened to get into the Butterick elevator-house at Suspension Bridge, without knowing it to be a private establishment. Both looked out of the window upon the river below, but without taking the elevator, were going to leave, when an attendant stepped between them and the door, asking for the customary fifty cents apiece. At first the gentleman (a minister of the gospel) refused to pay, but finally, in consideration of the terrible effect the fracas seemed to have on his wife's nerves, yielded. He then lodged a complaint against the elevator man for assault, and the judge imposed a fine of \$10 on the offender. This seems all right, and yet what would the Butterick Elevator Company care for an occasional fine of \$10, when they make large amounts of money every year by just such practices as the one for which a \$10 fine was imposed. There are a number of resorts of a similar kind, and where similar practices are in vogue in the vicinity. The hackmen aid them in getting victims, and are paid for doing so by the owners. The city authorities could stop these practices, and the extortions of the hackmen, if they were inclined to do so. But the hackmen and all the rest of the people who live and often prey on visiting strangers, are a power. They command votes. They bring trade. In short, they are not to be trifled with, and the abuses are allowed to continue without undue interference. But even here public opinion forces a gradual improvement. The world moves on, and the wrong practices will have to be abandoned in the end.

T. GREINER.

NUMBERS AND VALUES OF FARM ANIMALS.

Stock.	Number.		Increase (+) or decrease (-).	Value.		Increase or decrease.
	1893.	1894.		1893.	1894.	
Horses.....	16,206,802	16,081,130	-125,663	\$992,225,185	\$769,224,799	-\$223,000,386
Mules.....	2,331,128	2,352,231	+21,103	164,763,751	146,232,811	-18,530,940
Milch cows.....	16,424,087	16,487,400	+63,313	356,876,853	358,998,661	+2,122,808
Oxen and other cattle.....	35,954,196	36,608,168	+653,972	547,882,204	536,789,747	-11,092,457
Sheep.....	47,273,553	45,048,017	-2,225,536	125,909,264	89,186,110	-36,723,154
Swine.....	46,094,807	45,206,498	-883,309	295,420,492	270,384,626	-25,041,866
Total.....				2,483,083,249	2,170,816,754	-312,266,495

The changes in value per head are also shown as follows:

Stock.	Value.		Increase or decrease.	Stocks.	Value.		Increase or decrease.
	1893.	1894.			1893.	1894.	
Horses.....	\$61.22	\$47.83	-\$13.39	Oxen and other cattle.....	\$15.24	\$14.66	-\$.58
Mules.....	70.68	62.17	-8.51	Sheep.....	2.66	1.98	-.68
Milch cows.....	21.73	21.77	+.04	Swine.....	6.41	5.98	-.43

\$75,000,000 Will hardly cover the loss sustained by the sheep industry of the United States during the year 1893. To the depreciation in the value of the sheep must be added the decrease in the value of the lambs and wool produced.

The wool clip of 1893 was 364,152,666 pounds. No wonder the flock masters are tumbling over themselves to get out of the business.

Antioleo. Oleomargarine is a French invention. It is said that it originated in the desire of the French government to provide the poorer classes with a cheap substitute for butter. M. Mege was employed by the government to make experiments in this line, and the original process of making oleo is his work. But France has very strict laws regulating the sale of oleo. Under statutes for the "repression of frauds in the sale of butter," it is absolutely forbidden to offer for sale, import or export under the name of butter, oleo or any other butter substitute, under penalty of fine and imprisonment, confiscation of the articles and publication of the convictions. The sale, transportation, exportation and importation of butter substitutes are permitted only when they are in packages legibly labeled with their true name. As far as French law can go, the oleo tub must stand on its own bottom.

The laws of Denmark, a country famed for its dairy products and dairy inventions, prohibit oleo from being colored in imitation of butter, require it to be handled in packages different in shape from those used for butter, and forbid dealers in oleo from selling butter. The laws guard the interests of consumers, and allow oleo to be made and sold for what it is.

in ten or twenty or a hundred years. Nor does it stop then. The world continues to get better, and there is indeed a great deal of room for improvement. The "millennium" is far, far away; it will not come in a day, it will not come suddenly, and all we can do is to plod along in that direction steadily though slowly.

Recognizing the truth of these statements, why should we make ourselves miserable worrying over the ills and evils of this world? Why despair of the future when we see might triumph over right, or when we meet corruption in politics, and see the readiness with which the masses of the people allow themselves to be coaxed, and wheedled and forced into the support of selfish bosses? Vice often triumphs over virtue; but as the world's progress toward civilization and improvement is steady, we may rest assured that this triumph can only be a temporary one, and virtue and right will come out ahead at last. I have this absolute faith, and therefore, while trying to help the good cause along, with my sympathies, with voice and pen, and in every other possible way I know, I do not feel like committing suicide when things go the wrong way. All wrongs will surely be righted in the end.

EVIL INFLUENCES.

The daily press announced, just a day or two previous to this writing, that the Louisiana Lottery Company, which it was thought had been driven out of this country by adverse legislation some time ago, is still doing a thriving business in Florida. I cannot understand how the great dailies could have been kept in ignorance of this fact so long. For many months the following advertisement, in large display type, has appeared in the programs given out at theaters:

Our Farm.

WESTERN NEW YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
EXTRACT FROM PRESIDENT N. C. BERRY'S ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN:—To-night we are assembled to hold the thirty-ninth annual meeting of this society. At this time I can with propriety congratulate you upon the prosperous and flourishing condition of this organization. There are now more than 400 members enrolled, and with a little effort the number can be increased to 500.

The present outlook for fruit growers is not by any means hopeful; on the contrary, the prospect is rather discouraging. This industry, like almost every other, has suffered from several causes. Many will attribute their failure to excessive production, while some will ascribe their losses to the ravages of diseases and insects. I will not attempt now to trace the causes of failure, but rather suggest some means to meet and overcome the difficulties which confront us. As regards excessive production, all are agreed that there is annually sent to market an over-supply of indifferent fruit. Buyers and consumers everywhere complain that not enough attention is given to the production of high-grade fruit, and that consequently the markets at certain times become glutted with an article, the sale of which has to be forced. Gathering, handling, sorting and packing come in for their share of criticism and censure. It is, therefore, obvious that every fruit grower and horticulturist should give more care and attention to these important details. The best business methods should be adopted. The demands of the various markets should be attentively studied; old and worn-out machinery and tools should be discarded, and labor-saving devices and implements should be employed, so that the greatest economy in labor can be practiced. Wastefulness of all kinds in cultivation and management should be avoided and expenses reduced. When competition is so keen, success is impossible if we do not keep fully abreast with the times both in thought and methods.

The youth who propose to follow this pursuit should prepare themselves by a course of study at an agricultural school, where the dignity and importance of their calling will be impressed upon them, and where a desire for knowledge and a taste for study and science will be acquired. The condition of affairs in the cities of this country to-day furnishes evidence enough that it is unwise and foolish to forsake the farm with a view of bettering one's self at other industries; thousands are now out of employment and without homes, and many are without the necessities of life. Is it not possible to encourage the young men to believe that the opportunities for reward upon the farm are as great, if not greater, than elsewhere? Should not the advantages and pleasures of outdoor life, and the disadvantages of indoor occupation, be considered and compared? Do we fully realize what a privilege it is to possess acres of good land, pleasantly located and producing satisfactory crops? The farmer and fruit grower are ever in close communion with nature.

Secretary Morton reminds the croakers that only about three per cent of all merchants escape failure, while as hardly three per cent of the farmers fail. Statistics show that agriculture is safer than banking, manufacturing and railroading, taking all things into account. There is no farmer, he says, of good sense and good health, who cannot make a good living for himself and family, and that is as well as the majority of men are doing in any other pursuit. And there are numerous instances of profitable farms and well-to-do land owners, but everyone of them attributes his success to industry, perseverance, vigilance and intelligent effort.

There seems to be no good reason why farming and fruit growing should not pay, and pay well, if the business be conducted on correct business principles. Let those advanced in years make way for those who are soon to succeed them. Give the young men a chance, and let their standard be a high one. There should be no scrub stock on the farm; horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry should all be of the best breeds, and attention should be given to develop breeds suited to special purposes. Cultivate only so much land as can be

properly cared for. A few acres well tilled will yield more profit than a large number half cultivated. This assertion is verified in the old countries, where land is scarce, and where, consequently, high cultivation is imperative.

Enthusiasm and a desire to excel should be infused into every undertaking. Then will the farm be cared for and not forsaken, and an intelligent course of tillage adopted; sterile fields will become fruitful, and our country will boast of a sturdy, enlightened class, happy in the enjoyment of God's greatest gift to man—good health—and proud of their possessions.

L. B. PIERCE.

THE NATIONAL DAIRY CONGRESS.

Agreeable to the call of the committee on permanent organization that was chosen last October at the world's fair, the convention was called to order promptly at 10 o'clock A. M., with President Henry M. Arms, of Springfield, Vt., in the chair and C. L. Gabrilson, of New Hampton, Iowa, secretary.

The meeting was held February 9, 1894, in the Forest City House, in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, and twenty different states were represented. On motion, H. M. Arms, C. L. Gabrilson and D. P. Ashburn were chosen committee on credentials. A short recess was taken to perfect this work.

In twenty minutes the convention was called to order, and the committee on credentials reported there were twenty states properly represented, except Ohio had a much larger number than could be accepted as voting delegates for the National Dairy Congress, and the committee further ruled that each state represented should have two votes. Whereupon the Ohio delegation retired for a few moments and on motion, J. McLain Smith, from Dayton, Ohio, was chosen chairman of the Ohio delegation, and empowered to cast the two votes for Ohio in the national convention when consultation with the other delegates had by majority decided what the Ohio vote should be. The meeting was well improved every moment with discussion of all questions affecting the great dairy industry of the United States when no special business was before it.

At 11:30 A. M. the meeting had then become properly prepared for the orderly transaction of business. The minutes of the Chicago meeting that had the inception of this great National Dairy Congress organization under consideration were read and approved.

The following delegates were then appointed by President Arms on a committee to draft constitution and by-laws, and to nominate officers: Henry Talcott, Jefferson, Ohio; D. P. Ashburn, Gibbon, Neb.; G. A. Bowen, Connecticut; H. I. Wing, Georgia; C. D. Curtis, Wisconsin. The committee retired, and the convention proceeded with discussion of all questions bearing upon the good of the dairy interest until 12:30 P. M., when they adjourned for dinner until 2 P. M. The afternoon was devoted entirely to the pent-up oratory and very wise suggestions for the advancement for the dairy cause. It was such a love feast of acquaintance and recognition of the practical dairymen of this nation as were never congregated before, and although separated so far apart by states, they found themselves unconsciously near together in heart and sympathy with this most important farm industry, representing in wealth by far the greatest amount of any of the great long list of agricultural industries. At 7:30 P. M. the evening session was commenced. The committee on permanent organization made a partial report as follows:

ARTICLE 1.—This association shall be known as the National Dairy Congress.

ART. 2.—The object of this dairy congress shall be to promote the dairy interest of the United States and elevate the standard of all its dairy products.

ART. 3.—This dairy congress shall be composed of two delegates from each state dairy association and one delegate from each experiment station carrying on dairy experiment work; provided that in those states where no state dairy association exists, the governor may appoint two delegates who shall be practical dairymen.

ART. 4.—Each state dairy association may appoint two delegates for the next annual meeting, one for one year, and one for two years, and each year thereafter appoint one for two years.

ART. 5.—The annual dues shall be twenty dollars for each state dairy association, and ten dollars from each experiment station, to be used for the expenses of the dairy congress.

ART. 6.—Its officers shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, who shall constitute the executive committee.

ART. 7.—The president shall preside at all meetings, and in his absence the vice-president shall be the presiding officer.

ART. 8.—The executive committee shall have power to transact all business not done at the annual meetings.

ART. 9.—In all meetings each state representation shall be entitled to three votes, to be cast by the delegates present.

ART. 10.—This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two thirds vote of the members present.

This report was received, considered seriatim and adopted, each article as above recorded.

The executive committee are left perfectly free to pursue any line of work that will fairly comply with Article 2 of the constitution. They can aid and assist the formation of dairy schools wherever needed to advance the quality of the American dairy product. This will, no doubt, all be done in connection with state dairy associations and experiment station work.

They also have unquestioned power to receive into honorary membership all manufacturers of pure dairy goods, by exacting of them a sufficient guarantee that they will in no instance manufacture any cheese but honest, full cream cheese and perfectly pure butter. For an annual fee, not excessive at all, they can publish to the world all the manufacturers of honest dairy goods, who see fit to enroll themselves in membership agreeable to conditions of the executive committee. In the same manner can they give character and assistance to the honest retail dealers of this nation, and publish the names of all dealers who will comply with the requirements. The information so thoroughly given to the consumers of food will point out to them the honest dealer in dairy goods in every city or village store of the nation, and there is then no excuse for them to buy hard, indigestible, skim-milk cheese, or that which is lacking at all in virtue, and bogus butter, filled cheese and adulterated milk can be buried in the same ignominious grave. There is a mountain of good that can be accomplished by this, the most important organization ever completed to elevate the purity and standard of food.

At 10 o'clock P. M. the meeting adjourned until 10 A. M. Thursday morning. Promptly at the appointed hour the meeting was called to order by Chairman H. M. Arms. The committee on organization and nomination made their complete report through their chairman, Henry Talcott. The committee reported the nomination of Henry M. Arms, Springfield, Vt., for president; John F. Hickman, Wooster, Ohio, vice-president; D. P. Ashburn, Gibbon, Neb., secretary; C. L. Gabrilson, New Hampton, Iowa, treasurer. The report was adopted.

Toward the close of both forenoon and afternoon day sessions, profitable discussions occupied every moment of time.

A friendly and open meeting was held all the time between the National Dairy Union board of control, in session at the Hollenden House in Cleveland, Ohio, the same day of this convention. The utmost harmony prevailed between these two national associations which have much in common interest, but as a matter of necessity must consist of some different membership, as their line of work is to be different in many respects.

The Ohio state dairy association was left an open question until February 23d, when, at an appointed meeting and time in Columbus, Ohio, it will be completed. It was the most important meeting ever held in the United States to advance the interest of pure food in the dairy line of production.

HENRY TALCOTT.

LAP-ROBES AND SHEEPSKIN BAGS.

People have lots more sense now than they used to have about keeping comfortable, both in and out of doors. For instance, last winter I was annoyed with cold feet while sitting in my study, though there was a delightful fire all the time. This winter I am free from the old trouble, and give the good wife all the credit. She placed a sheepskin rug before my table and my feet are warm. On the road it is noticed how common it is to see lap-robies. Some of these are made of sheepskins, others are goatskins, and many are queer skins that we do not know what sort of an animal they came from—probably sheep from some foreign country. These all cost money, and ought to; but why not make them from the home flock? Tan, trim and sew enough skins together to

make a robe the desired size; color them, if desired, to the most suitable shade; ornament by binding the edges with pinked felt of desired colors. There is room for some skill and taste in ornamenting the tanned side of this robe, also.

The sheepskin bag is not original with me, but is suggestive of comfort for use in cold weather. It may be made for one or two persons. Use skins enough to make a bag three and one half or four feet long—whether for one or two persons—sew the trimmed edges together two thirds of the way up the sides, leaving enough to sit on and the front side to come up over the lap, and protect the lower part of the chest. This bag, like the robe, may be used wool side in or out, as preferred, and to suit the weather. The ornaments, too, of the bag may be more or less elaborate, as preferred.

Any one will very readily see that there is comfort in such wraps. If there is anybody needing and deserving protection against cold and storms, it is the farmer and his sons, while going to and from market these cold days. Much of the above was suggested by what I saw at the world's fair, in the exhibits of foreign nations. They were very pretty, and sold for enormously high prices. But why not make our own?

R. M. BELL.

HOW TO CHECK A RUNAWAY HORSE.

As soon as the driver sees the disposition to run in the horse he is driving, let him begin the rapid jerking first on one line and then on the other, not gently, but with such force as to bring the bridle-bit from one side to the other through the horse's mouth. This new motion so confuses the animal that all other fear is taken away. From many years' driving I have never found this method to fail on the most refractory horse. Of course, you should never drive any horse without the best of strong leather, that will stand any strain you need to put on it.

A. H. VAN DOREN.

HENS IN THE WOODS.

If a poultry-house could be arranged near a body of woods the hens would find a large share of food, even in the winter, if no snow was on the ground, and also secure exercise, for they would industriously work in the leaves and endeavor to turn over some stray insect that had not made its hiding-place very deep, or which was snugly ensconced under the leaves. The only objection to such a location is the liability to depredations from minks and other enemies; but as to the success to be obtained in securing eggs from the hens it cannot be denied, especially if they are assisted with other food and have warm quarters at night.



Mrs. Annie Lovegrove
New York City.

Broken Down System

A Sufferer With Rheumatism Loses Strength and Sleep

Like a New Woman After Taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.:

"Gentlemen:—I have been troubled with rheumatism for the last five years. I was so bad at times that I could hardly walk or lift my hand to my head and I could not sleep nights. My appetite was so bad that when I would eat anything I would suffer with much distress in my stomach. I read a great deal about Hood's Sarsaparilla and thought I would give it a trial. I got a bottle and it did me so much good that I kept on taking it until now I

feel like a new woman.

I cannot find words to express my thanks to Hood's Sarsaparilla for the good it has done.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

I shall always use it in my family and also recommend it to my friends." MRS. ANNIE LOVEGROVE, 310 West 25th St., New York City.

Hood's Pills become the favorite cathartic with every one who tries them. 25c. per box.

Our Farm.

IN GARDEN AND FIELD.

FORCING VEGETABLES.—As I have repeatedly told in these columns, I find a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction among my greenhouse, hotbed and cold-frame crops. It is worth a good deal to me to have choice lettuce, radishes, young onions, tomatoes and other things at a time when other people have none, and when we seem to have a greater appetite and relish for these things than we have for them during their natural season. Indeed, they look more beautiful now than at any other time of the year. With shrewd business tact and management, and in suitable locations, these greenhouse crops can be made to pay, too. But we must not imagine that building greenhouses and growing lettuce, radishes, mushrooms, green onions and the like will be a panacea for hard times and make farming pay better than it does in the regular way. While there is absolutely no limit to our productive power, so far as these crops are concerned, consumption, at present prices, must be restricted to very narrow limits. There are only comparatively few people who can afford to eat lettuce in winter, when they have to pay 75 cents a dozen heads, or tomatoes at 65 cents a pound and cucumbers at 50 cents apiece. The tendency of prices in all lines has all this time been steadily downward. Before the consumption of forced vegetables can ever become general, prices will have to drop materially, and indeed, they would fall very rapidly should the production of these articles be doubled or trebled.

These thoughts came to me when I heard Dr. Peter Collier speak so enthusiastically about the business of forcing vegetables, as he did at the last meeting of the Western New York Horticultural Society. His words were backed up by a fine exhibit of lettuce, radishes, beans, mushrooms, etc., all grown at the experimental greenhouses at Geneva. I am full of enthusiasm myself, but I have learned that it is easier to figure out profits on paper than to secure them in reality, especially when we figure out profits by the acre, on the basis of results obtained on a little plot.

The products, or surplus products, of the station experiments have been sold in Geneva at good figures—tomatoes at 65 cents a pound, mushrooms at 75 cents to \$1 a pound, cucumbers at 50 cents apiece. Figuring on this basis, Dr. Collier says an acre under glass might be made to produce \$11,000 worth of vegetables, and that a person with a quarter of an acre in greenhouses might make more money in three months than he could on his whole farm the rest of the year. I should be sorry if this impression would get abroad, and to see people take Dr. Collier's statements at their par value. The station people themselves would probably meet with many serious disappointments, were they to engage in growing winter vegetables on a one-fourth-acre scale in the expectation that they could realize comparatively the same favorable results as obtained on the rather limited scale as at present conducted. If Collier's enthusiastic accounts were to induce a considerable number of persons to build large forcing-houses and engage in this business as a speculation, there would be disappointment enough to last for a long time; and indeed, the station would do more harm than they could repair by their regular work in years. With good management, as stated before, the industry of winter gardening can be made profitable, but it will not make people suddenly rich.

The Ohio experiment station has made similar experiments for a number of years. Professor W. J. Green, who has this branch in charge, I believe, and who was also present at Rochester, has been taking a very conservative course. No flashy statements have gone out from him. He finds forced lettuce and radishes quite profitable, but I think he appreciates the necessity of "making everything count;" in other words, of reducing the expenses of the crops in every possible way, and of avoiding the production of crops which cannot be sold at paying prices. Winter tomatoes, for instance, are not a profitable crop with him, simply because there are too few people in his vicinity willing to pay such a price per pound for forced tomatoes as would leave any chance of profit for the

grower. Radishes and lettuce are the money crops during winter. When they are done with, toward spring, tomatoes are planted out on the benches which would otherwise be vacant, and the crop is brought into market just a few weeks in advance of the earliest outdoor tomatoes. Cucumbers can be grown in the same way and at the same time, and both crops will pay fairly well.

But to make vegetable forcing during winter pay, crop must follow crop in rapid succession. Indeed, I have this down "to a fine point." I grow my lettuce plants in flats, transplanting several times and giving more space at each time. Then when bench space becomes vacant by the removal of one crop, large plants are ready to go in again. If I happen to have smaller plants only, I set them twice as closely as I want them left in the end; give them two weeks' growth and then take up every other plant—then perhaps half grown—and set them out in a bed just cleared from a preceding crop. I am now taking out a crop of Grand Rapids lettuce planted out on the bench just four weeks ago. Prof. Green tells me that he grows this variety exclusively, because he can grow a crop in six weeks, while Boston Market and other forcing sorts require eight weeks' time to come to full development. This is true, and yet I prefer the Boston Market, which makes most excellent heads.

In justice to the New York experiment station, be it said that their vegetable exhibit deserves the highest praise. The lettuce looked especially fine, and when put on the market in new boxes, as placed on the exhibition table, I believe it must

sell, and sell well. The mushrooms were also fine and remarkably large.

CABBAGE AFTER CABBAGE.—A Kansas reader writes that he wishes to plant cabbage on the same ground where he had cabbage last year. The ground is rich and will be well manured with stable manure. He wants to know whether his plan is all right. No, it is not. It is never safe to plant cabbages after cabbages, or after turnips, or after radishes, or rape, or mustard, etc. The disease known as "clubroot" is very liable to attack succeeding crops of this family, although such crops, especially in old gardens, or on soil containing plenty of lime, or heavily fertilized with ashes and commercial fertilizers, sometimes remain free from clubroot for years. I do not like to run any risks, however, and always change the location of cabbage and similar crops. With this precaution I find no difficulty in growing good cabbages. They are a paying crop, even if prices do not rule very high.

WHY CELERY STALKS ARE HOLLOW.—J. B., of Rhode Island, wants me to tell him why celery is sometimes solid, sweet and brittle, and at other times hollow and worthless, when grown in the same place and from the same seed. I have often tried to solve this puzzle, and if there are people who know and can explain it, I would like to hear from them. I am sure that neither seed nor variety has anything to do with stalks being hollow, and that the cause of the trouble is mostly in the soil and treatment. I do not remember the time that I have had reason to complain of hollow stalks. My celery is always solid and brittle.

If the land has plant-food enough to

produce a quick and succulent growth, I do not think that you will find hollow stalks. The course of treatment, therefore, which I would advise in order to grow brittle stalks is as follows: Make the land excessively rich, especially by applications of nitrogenous manures, such as well-rotted horse manure (from well-fed horses), or of fish compost, dried blood, nitrate of soda, etc. Set good plants; cultivate early and often. If possible, provide partial shade for the plants and irrigate in dry weather.

I grow White Plume and Golden Self-blanching for early, and Giant Paschal and New Rose for late. White Plume does not equal Golden Self-blanching in quality, but surpasses it in vigorous growth. Paschal makes the thickest and most solid stalks of any kind I ever tried. The pink sorts are of better quality than the ordinary varieties, and I am glad that we now have a Pink Plume, introduced this season by Peter Henderson & Co., of New York City.

KNAPSACK SPRAYER.—An Ohio reader asks what manufacturer makes the best knapsack sprayer. The right way for him to do is to look up the addresses of advertising manufacturers and write to them for circulars and price-lists. All the knapsack sprayers that I have seen advertised are serviceable for small-scale operations, and every home grower ought to have one. At the last meeting of the western New York fruit growers, I saw a new-style knapsack with automatic agitator, which pleased me as well as anything of the kind I have yet seen. It was exhibited by the Field Force-pump Company, which, I believe, have advertised in FARM AND FIRESIDE. But do not expect too much of these knapsack sprayers. It is hard work to carry and operate them for any length of time, and they are not well fitted for spraying large trees. They do first-rate for small gardens, potato patches, vineyards, etc., and indeed, they come handy for many other things, as spraying cellars, outhouses, hen-roosts, etc., with germicides, insecticides, etc.

JOSEPH.

THE ONLY GUARANTEED LIVER, BLOOD AND LUNG REMEDY IS

DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY.

This is the only remedy, of its class, so certain in its curative action, that it can be sold on trial—money returned if it doesn't cure. You pay only for the good you get.

For Torpid Liver, Impure Blood, all Skin and Scalp Diseases, and for Consumption, (which is Lung Scrofula) nothing has ever been produced to equal or compare with the "Discovery." For Weak Lungs, Bleeding from Lungs, Short Breath, Coughs, Asthma, and kindred affections, the "Discovery" surpasses all other medicines. To build up needed strength and wholesome flesh, in recovering from the Grip, Pneumonia, Fevers, and in all Wasting Diseases, it is unequalled.

It enriches the blood when impoverished, thereby feeding the nerves with healthy stimulus, soothing, strengthening and toning them up, thus curing Nervous Prostration, General and Nervous Debility, Neuralgia, and kindred Nervous Maladies.

WHAT OTHERS SAY OF DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY:

ASTHMA CURED.

MRS. ISAAC LOTMAN, of Thurlow, Delaware Co., Pa., writes: "My brother, Harry C. Troup, had been sick for ten years with asthma. He was treated by ten different physicians, who said he could not be cured. He had to sit up all night, he got so short of breath; he suffered with fearful headaches and had a bad cough. After taking Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and 'Pleasant Pellets,' he did not get short of breath, and can sleep all night."

DOCTORS ENDORSE IT.

AN EMINENT PHYSICIAN OF ARKANSAS, TELLS OF SOME REMARKABLE CURES OF CONSUMPTION.

W. C. ROGERS, M. D., of Stamps, La Fayette Co., Ark., writes: "Consumption is hereditary in my wife's family; some have already died with the disease. My wife has a sister, Mrs. E. A. Cleary, that was taken with consumption. She used your 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and to the surprise of her many friends, she got well. My wife has also had hemorrhages from the lungs, and her sister insisted on her using the 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I consented, and it cured her. She has had no symptoms of consumption for the past six years. People having this disease can take no better remedy."

PAIN IN CHEST.

E. B. NORMAN, Esq., of Anon, Ga., says: "I think the 'Golden Medical Discovery' is the best medicine for pain in the chest that I have ever known. I am sound and well, and I owe it all to the 'Discovery.'"

SALT-RHEUM; FLESH CRACKED OPEN AND BLED.

MISS LOTTIE CLARK, River Falls, Pierce Co., Wis., writes: "I suffered for three years from salt-rheum, and after having been unsuccessfully treated by a good physician, I began the use of 'Golden Medical Discovery.' The humor was in my hands. I was obliged to keep a covering on them for months at a time, changing the covering morning and night. The stinging, burning and itching sensation would be so intense that at times it seemed as if I would go crazy. When I beat the fingers, the flesh would crack open and bleed. It is impossible for me to describe the intense pain and suffering which I endured night and day. After taking six bottles of the 'Discovery' I was entirely cured."

ECZEMA AND OLD SORES.

FRED PESTLINE, of Alexander, Genesee Co., N. Y., writes: "I had eczema and ulcers on the legs."

MRS. SARAH S. SNEED, of Clio, Iredell Co., N. C., writes: "My daughter was first attacked with pneumonia and pleurisy in very bad form and was then taken with a very bad cough, which kept growing worse and worse, until finally it seemed as though she had consumption very bad. The physicians prescribed cod liver oil, but to no benefit. I procured two bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and she grew better. She hasn't felt any return of lung disease in over twelve months. She was nothing but a skeleton when she took the first dose, but to-day she weighs 133 pounds."

REDUCED TO A SKELETON.

MRS. MIRA MILLS, of Sardis, Big Stone Co., Minn., writes: "One year ago I was given up by my family physician and friends; all said I must die. My lungs were badly affected, and body reduced to a skeleton. My people commenced to give me your 'Medical Discovery,' and I soon began to mend. It was not long before I became well enough to take charge of my household duties again. I owe my recovery to Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery."

Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

PRACTICAL RESULTS.

THE first year at the poultry business causes many surprises to the beginner. The best informed persons, those who may have taken advantage of the experience of others, and who may have resorted to all the literature to be obtained, will also find when they have passed through the first year, that there were a thousand and one facts that could not be detailed or explained. In fact, many things occur with one which may not happen with others, and which may never occur again, but every transaction is a contribution to the knowledge of the poultryman.

It is better to expect nothing the first year. Something will be gained, however, and that is experience. In the management of large numbers, there are many matters which will happen and which cannot be discovered except by daily observation. Every poultryman, whether a beginner or not, is capable of originating something, and he is as liable to make a discovery that will revolutionize all previous theories and methods as is the veteran. The beginner who has read poultry literature has, however, a great advantage over him who has depended on experience alone, for literature is really the published experience of others. There is no pursuit, however, that does not require the practice of the theories to make them more familiar and better understood. In the poultry business one has to understand not a flock only, but the individual members of the flock.

Practical results always point to success. The first year may be an entire failure, with loss of time, capital and labor, but the cause of the failure may be discovered, and a knowledge of the cause may be of more value than the pecuniary loss. One must not estimate the results by the operations of a single year. Hundreds of farmers have failed with crops one year and been successful the next, owing to more favorable conditions the second year; and the poultryman who has failed, yet discovered the cause and learned more about how to manage, may in the end be benefited by his losses, as he will be more careful and be better informed in regard to future operations.

SNOW-STORMS AND POULTRY.

In the wild or native state, the hen is in a country where snow is unknown, and the domestic hen still inherits some of the characteristics of the original stock.

Very cold weather is severely felt by poultry. The combs of the cocks sometimes become frozen, and the hens will seek shelter in order to guard against cold winds. When the ground is covered with snow, the hens are helpless and must confine themselves to some location that has escaped the covering of snow. They cannot seek food and they will not lay, because they are struggling to prevent freezing to death. When they are obliged to roost outside they are tortured with cold and the fear of their natural enemies underneath. It is due to the "survival of the fittest" that they exist at all during some seasons. When snow-storms occur, a space should be cleared of snow for the hens, and they should be sheltered. Plenty of food should be provided, and warm water given three times a day. They should be given cut straw in which to scratch, and their comfort attended to. If they are warm and in good condition, they will lay during the coldest days of winter.

MARCH AND APRIL.

March and April are two of the most unfavorable months in the year for poultry that are not carefully attended to, as there will be frequent cold rain-storms. Roup prevails in the early spring months more than in winter, owing to dampness, and the hens will venture forth on moderately warm days, seeking a change of food, when they should be inside. Care and attention must be bestowed until the season sets in warm, and all risk of exposure to cold rains has passed, and the hens will then be better prepared for laying.

Get the best. The best is the cheapest. This business axiom applies to Sedgwick Bros. Co. (Richmond, Ind.) Woven Wire Fencing. See advertisement in this paper.

KEEPING POULTRY MANURE DAMP.

At this season the droppings are quite an item, and they are more valuable in winter than in summer, because the food is more concentrated. To keep them properly they should not become dry under the roost, but should be collected daily. Mix one peck of kainite (German potash salts) with one bushel of dry dirt or sifted coal ashes. Now mix this with the same quantity of droppings, and place them in a barrel or hogshead. You may also scatter some of the kainite and dirt under the roosts. Instead of keeping the droppings dry, as is frequently suggested, keep them moist (not wet) with soap-suds. The result will be that the moisture will prevent loss of ammonia, the sulphuric acid of the kainite and the fat acids formed from the soap-suds, will form several chemical compounds, which will not only preserve the valuable qualities of the droppings, but will render them more soluble, as well as prevent the formation of silicates (which happens when the droppings are dry), and when you attempt to use the droppings the ammoniacal odor will convert you to the damp process.

USE THE INCUBATOR.

Chicks may be hatched in incubators as late as March or April, and bring good prices. It is well, however, to hatch during the whole year, as the experience of raising the chicks at all seasons will be very valuable another year.

There are many points in favor of the incubator. In the first place, it is no longer a matter of doubt that the incubator will hatch, as there are thousands in use that are doing good work. They save the time of the hen, thus permitting them to be of greater service in producing eggs, and by the use of the incubator, all of the early chicks intended for pullets can be hatched at one operation. Do not aim to do too much at once, however. Begin with a small incubator. One holding one hundred eggs is large enough to begin with. Do not expect an incubator to hatch if you do not perform your part. As a rule, nearly all failures are due to the eggs not being fresh or perfect; hence, great care should be exercised in using those from the best sources only.

THE TURKEYS IN WINTER.

The turkeys receive shameful treatment on some farms. They can be taught to roost inside, but it is seldom that a warmer place is afforded than the tree limb, the birds seeking to protect themselves as much as possible by roosting in trees that serve partially as wind-breaks. Their feet sometimes become frozen to the limbs, and many cases of lameness of turkeys may be traced to the exposure during severe weather.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

If you will collect your eggs often, so as to avoid having them severely chilled, and place them in a cellar where they will not freeze, they can be kept for six weeks, and will hatch as well as newly-laid eggs. Turn them over three times a week, and select only eggs that are of normal size and perfect in shape, if they are to be used for hatching purposes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

OBJECTION TO OUR STATEMENT.—In your January 1st issue of FARM AND FIRESIDE, under caption of "Cheapest Foods for Winter," the statement is made that "wheat at ten cents per bushel is not cheap at all if the object is to secure eggs." I cannot see any reason bearing out such a statement. If I am in the dark and laboring under difficulties and in ignorance in this matter, I should like to have the light turned on. My very small experience and observation make me join issue with the proposition. I would like to see enumerated some good reasons for the bold assertion. There are not a few "in the boat with me" who may run their craft upon the reefs unless our course is changed by some good pilot.

J. W. S.

Manchester, Va.

[Thanks, as we consider it a favor for readers to express themselves freely. We have stated, that "wheat at ten cents per bushel is not cheap at all if the object is to secure eggs, if the hens do not lay." We were discussing the advantages of other foods than grain.]

FARMING THAT PAYS.

Get a farm accessible to the best markets, where the climate is temperate all the year round, where there are good schools and churches, and good neighbors, and where land, capable of producing the best sellers, can be purchased at low prices. The farms that pay are in Virginia. Send for catalogue and learn how others have prospered. Address U. L. Truitt, General Traveling Passenger Agent, Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, Cincinnati, Ohio.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Roup.—L. B., Lebanon, Mo., writes: "My chickens are all dying with some kind of disease. The eyes swell, they become blind, the throats are covered with a substance, and they emit a very foul odor."

REPLY:—It is roup, and probably caused by exposure. Inject two or three drops of kerosene in each nostril once a day, and add a tablespoonful of chlorate of potash to each half gallon of the drinking-water. It is cheaper to destroy them and disinfect the premises.

House with Two Stories.—L. H. G., Lake Ridge, Mich., writes: "What is your opinion of a house with two stories, so as to save the cost of roofing?"

REPLY:—It may save some in the cost, but will entail more labor. Those who have used houses with two stories do not give encouragement for their use. It is better to have the hens on the ground floor.

Buckwheat.—J. K., Freeport, Neb., writes: "Is buckwheat good food for laying hens and growing chicks? Is it as valuable for that purpose as wheat or corn?"

REPLY:—There is no better food than buckwheat, and it is more valuable than wheat or corn for that purpose, but gives the best results when fed in connection with other grains.

Peafowls.—Mrs. H. R., Rothdun, Idaho, writes: "How old should a peafowl be to be used for breeding purposes?"

REPLY:—Both the male and female should be at least two years old.

Commission Merchants.—J. W., Gadsden, Ala., writes: "Will you please give me the names of responsible commission merchants in the best markets?"

REPLY:—We have no means of obtaining the addresses of commission merchants, and we would not care to assume the responsibility of recommending them unless well known to us. Those who advertise are usually enterprising and reliable.

Poultry Do Have

ROUP.—*These diseases.* The first is what diphtheria is to human beings, and closely allied to that disease. Symptoms are, sneezing like a cold; slight watering of the eyes; running in the throat, canker, swollen head and eruptions on head and face. A breeder of fighting game fowl which from their habits, are more liable to roup than others, gives us a **TREATMENT**, which he says is a **Positively Sure Cure for the**

ROUP

By the use of

JOHNSON'S

Anodyne Liniment

Space here will not permit giving his full directions for use. Send to us for full particulars, by mail, free. It also cures all Bowel Complaints, Leg Weakness and Rheumatic Lameness like magic. Sold everywhere. Price, 35c, 6 bottles, \$2.00. Express paid. Pamphlet free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

Poultry Supplies

Our Line is Most Complete. Our Prices are Right. Our Illustrated Circular is Free. Write for it. JOHNSON & STOKES, 217 & 219 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa.

NEW BOOK PROFIT AND LOSS IN POULTRY.

J. E. WHITE, South Glens Falls, New York.

INCUBATORS \$8.00

2c stamp for circulars. Address S. HOWARD MERRYMAN, Bosley, Md.

MONITOR INCUBATOR

Illustrated Catalogue for stamp. Medal and Diploma Awarded at the World's Fair. A. F. WILLIAMS, 28 Race St. Bristol, Ct.

THE WORLD'S FAIR MEDAL and DIPLOMA

Highest points for our INCUBATOR and BROODER Combined. If you are interested in Poultry, it will pay to send 4 cents in stamps for 72 page catalogue, giving valuable points on Poultry Culture. Address Bellable Incubator Co., Quincy, Ill.

Poultry Guide.

Sent 10 cents for the nicest poultry guide ever published, containing 28 large pages; 33 engravings. All about poultry for profit and pleasure. How to raise poultry, how to make money handling poultry, etc. We have the largest poultry farm in the West and breed 30 varieties. Stock for sale. Drayton Bros., Washington C. H., Ohio.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

B. Minorcas, P. Rocks, W. Wyandottes, Langshans, W. Leghorns, B. Cochins, \$1 per 13; Buff Leghorns, \$1.50.

Practical Farm Poultry says: Get the B. Minorcas for layers; they will lay you 200 large white eggs in a year. Fowls have good range and are guaranteed pure. Send for illus. catalogue. W. W. SHAMPOARE, LITTLE SILVER, N. J.

HARNESS

Send 2-cent stamp for illustrated catalogue, 70 styles of

CUSTOM HAND-MADE OAK LEATHER HARNESS to

select from, shipped subject to approval at wholesale prices. KING & CO., Mrs., 5 Church St., Owego, New York.

Established 1865.

Highest prices paid for prime quality, well dried

GINSENG ROOT and quick returns by T. A.

BRONSON, 54 Cedar St., New York City.

Correspondence solicited. References furnished.

Established 1865.

IMPROVED PEERLESS HATCHER

SOLD UNDER A GUARANTEE that it is positively self-regulating and will hatch fully 80 per cent. of fertile eggs, or it can be returned and money refunded. Reasonable price. Self-Regulating BROODERS. Send 4 cents for catalogue. H. M. SHEER & BRO., Quincy, Ill.

THE IMPROVED VICTOR INCUBATOR

Hatches Chickens by Steam. Absolutely self-regulating.

The simplest, most reliable and cheapest first-class Hatcher in the market. Circulars free.

GEO. ERTEL & CO., Quincy, Ill.

SIMPLEX HATCHER

The Most Perfect INCUBATOR MADE.

Quick and certain; Hatches every egg that a hen could

hatch. Regulates itself automatically; Reduces the cost of poultry raising to a minimum.

Best in every way—lowest in price. Send for Illus. Catalogue. SIMPLEX HATCHER CO., QUINCY, ILL.

Thousands in successful operation.

Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at

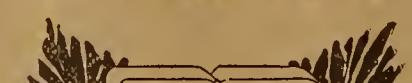
any other Hatcher.

GEO. H. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.

Patents and Sole Manufacturer

THE FARM AND FIRESIDE.

IVORY



SOAP

99 44/100%
= PURE =

NO IRRITATION.

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE CO., CINTI.

FINE POULTRY. Blk. Spanish, Blk. Minorcas, best layers, lowest prices. Eggs, 13, 90c., 50, \$3. J. CASE, MILFORD, N.J.

EGGS CHEAP. From choice selected Pure Bred Poultry, of the most noted prize winning strains. Fine illustrated descriptive catalogue free. B. H. GREIDER, FLORIN, N.J.

B KEEPER'S SEND FOR CLEANINGS IN BEE CULTURE. Sample copy of A Handsomely Illustrated Magazine and Catalog of BEE SUPPLIES FREE. A. I. ROOT, Medina, O.

INCUBATORS & BROODERS Brooders only \$5. Best and cheapest for raising chicks; 40 first premiums; 3,000 testimonials; send for catalogue. G. S. SINGER, Box 533, Cardington, O.

MONEY IN SPRING CHICKENS. The Hen Is Not In. The invincible egg hatcher does the business. Price, \$17.00. Big money. Send 4 cents for Catalogue No. 36. It tells all. 2600 sold in 1893. BUCKEYE INCUBATOR CO., Springfield, Ohio.

EGGS AND FOWLS FOR SALE From 50 varieties. Largest RANGE in the West. 1600 prizes at 10 Shows in 1893. Send three one cent stamps for best illustrated Catalogue, size 8 x 11, 32 pages. CHAS. GAMMERDINGER, COLUMBUS, O.

Mammoth New Catalogue Almanac AND GUIDE TO POULTRY RAISERS. 64 large pages, printed in colors. Description of all leading varieties of fowls. Over 50 fine illustrations. Plans for Poultry houses. Remedies for all diseases. Recipe for Poultry Powders. The finest thing everybody wants one. Only 10c. C. C. SHOEMAKER, Freeport, Ill., U.S.A.

Ginseng! Highest prices paid for prime quality, well dried GINSENG ROOT and quick returns by T. A. BRONSON, 54 Cedar St., New York City. Correspondence solicited. References furnished. Established 1865.

IMPROVED PEERLESS HATCHER SOLD UNDER A GUARANTEE that it is positively self-regulating and will hatch fully 80 per cent. of fertile eggs, or it can be returned and money refunded. Reasonable price. Self-Regulating BROODERS. Send 4 cents for catalogue. H. M. SHEER & BRO., Quincy, Ill.

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Thousands in successful operation.

Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at

any other Hatcher.

GEO. H. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.

Our Fireside.

THE DEAR LITTLE WIFE AT HOME.

The dear little wife at home, John,
With ever so much to do—
Stitches to set, and babies to pet,
And so many thoughts of you—
The beautiful household fairy,
Filling your heart with light;
Whatever you meet to-day, John,
Go cheerily home to-night.

For though you are worn and weary
You needn't be cross or curt;
There are words like darts to gentle hearts;
There are looks that wound and hurt.
With the key in the latch at home, John,
Drop troubles out of sight;
To the dear little wife who is waiting
Go cheerily home to-night.

You know she will come to meet you,
A smile on her kunny face,
And your wee little girl, as pure as a pearl,
Will be there in her childish grace;
And the boy, his father's pride, John,
With eyesso brave and bright;
From the strife and the din to the peace, John,
Go cheerily home to-night.

What though the tempter try you,
Though the shafts of adverse fate
May hurtle near and the sky be drear,
And the laggard fortune wait,
You are passing rich already;
Let the haunting fears take flight;
With the faith that wins success, John,
Go cheerily home to-night.

I WILL!

Sidney Attwood's Ambition.

HARRY WILLARD FRENCH.

CHAPTER II.

ANOTHER DOCTOR'S OPINION.

WHEN the village doctor read his letter Sidney Attwood was lying in a common bunk, among the steerage passengers, upon a steamer from Baltimore for New York. He was trembling from head to foot, frightened almost out of his senses, and cringing and shuddering at every sound.

When the first theft was discovered he had at once reported it to Tom, who, to his horror, suggested that Sidney probably did it himself.

"Yoh's forebber doin' tings an not knowin' it," Tom remarked, indifferently. "I seen yoh take some ob it. Jess look in yoh coat pock an' see ef 'tain't dab dis in-stunce."

Sidney felt in his coat pocket, and sure enough there was some money there. His abnormal credulity yielded to Tom's assertion, and he confessed the theft and returned the money.

When he knew from Aunt Cloe's question that more had been stolen, he sought through his pockets and everywhere else, before seeing Tom, but all that he could find was a gold eagle which the doctor had given him. He knew that he had not stolen that, but Tom still insisted:

"Yob doan know fo' sho when yoh tuk it, an' how's yoh 'specter know jess what yoh done wid it? Yoh's a born thief. Dat's what 'tis, an' it's gwine ter keep a comin' out jess's long 's yoh lib. 'F I wuz yoh au' had dat trouble top o' all de ress, I'd jess leeb a note foh de doctor fessin' I did it, an' den make foh de canal an' drowned myself."

Tom went home sure that Sidney would follow his advice, and considering certain promises which Colonel Attwood had made him, if Sidney did not live to claim his property, Tom thought that he had played a very masterly game.

Sidney did accept Tom's opinion, but when it came to going to the canal, he simply shook his head and repeated:

"I am going to study medicine. I will be a great doctor. Then I can cure myself."

He knew the way to Baltimore, and that there was a steamer from there to the great city of New York. He had one gold eagle and must make it go as far as it could. He made a little bundle of necessary clothes, wrote the note, took his crutch and started. He did not dare to say good-by even to Aunt Cloe, but tears filled his eyes as he paused for a moment at the door to listen to her singing.

"Sfie! I've been almost as good to me as the doctor," he said to himself, "and I'm glad that I didn't steal from her, anyway."

He brushed the tears away and closed the door behind him.

From that moment till he found himself upon the moving steamer he hardly remembered an incident. Frightened, ering, trembling, jumping all the time, his mind and

body were in one perpetual turmoil, only bolding grimly to that one resolve:

"I am going to New York."

When the steamer reached the wharf he went on shore, dodging this way and that till he reached the great, broad, dirty, noisy street. There he shrank back into a corner, and sat down on a *fender*. He had reached New York, but he had not the remotest idea what to do now that he had got there.

The crowd of busy people hustled and jostled about him. Truckmen, shouting and cursing, fought their way with heavy loads of freight on and off the wharf as hour after hour he sat there, till at length his attention became fastened upon a little boot-black, vigorously plying his trade and gathering in half-dimes. He liked his face. He admired his energy; but he looked down at his own club shoe and crutch and sighed.

Late in the afternoon the boot-black came

"I s'pose mine's Peter," the other explained, "but we're too husy in New York for long words if short'n'sll do. Lemme call you Sid?"

Sidney nodded.

"Got anything ter do next?"

He shook his head decidedly.

"Say, d'y'ever shine hoots?"

Sidney's mouth was full of apple, but he looked down at his twisted foot and thrust it out a little.

There was a pause for a moment, then Pete continued:

"I'd a brother like you. He'd got a foot like your'n an' a crutch, but bim an' me we went partners, an' I'll be licked if he didn't get more shines 'n I did, an' never went 'rouud callin' up trade a bit. He'd just sit down on a piece o' carpet, in a good place, an' folks'd tumble to his lame foot faster'n he could tend to 'em. He died a'most a year ago, he did, but

Pete entered heartily into the plan of studying medicine, when the ambition was gradually explained to him.

"We'll juss work an' save right 'long," he exclaimed. "I'll give up smokin'. It's a bad trick, anyway, for a boy. An' when we've got enough to start on, you'll go studyin' an' I'll keep right on shinin' an' sayin' till you get fixed doc'r'in'. Then you'll lay up, too, an' set me up as boss of a news-stand, won'tcher?"

"You bet I will, Pete," Sidney exclaimed, already falling into the ways of the world he lived in.

The little partuers occupied a room at the very top of a large tenement building, and at the end of eighteen months had more than two hundred dollars hidden away under their clothes in Pete's strong chest.

"We're just boomin' fine," said Pete. "But I wisht I could borrer your shoe an' crutch when you go ter studyin'. I'm 'fraid trade'll fall off more'n half when I come to go it alone."

Sidney had become much more of a real boy, but his frightened nerves had not forgotten to take note of every sudden sound, when one night he was roused by Pete, pulling his arm and calling:

"Sid! Sid! Wake up! The house is on fire! I didn't mean ter wake yer up so quick, but I couldn't help it. Keep cool now. Get on yer togs lively. I'll huckle yer shoe. There. Take yer erutch an' yer hox. Here's the carpet. Get down-stairs an' outer the crowd juss as quick as you know how, but mind yer don't slip an' fall. I'll sling our things inter the cbest an' bring it down an' meet yer where we was blackin' last night. Be careful."

And Pete literally pushed him out of the room.

The stairway was filled with smoke, but Sidney shut his eyes and held his breath and jumped along on his strong foot. As he turned at the end of the first flight a volume of hot smoke dashed in his face, and almost stifled him. Against the red glare outside he saw a fireman standing in an open window at the end of the ball, and heard him call to him to come that way, for the stairs below were all on fire. Pete did not know how bad it was, and if he waited he would never get out. Sidney called to the fireman:

"Pete is up-stairs! I must go back for him!" and resolutely began to climb again, while every instant the heat and smoke grew more intense. He had taken but a few steps, however, when he felt the fireman catch him in his arms.

"Pete's up there!" he gasped. "Pete! Leave me alone, I say! I am going back to Pete!"

He struggled for a moment, but the smoke overcame him, and when he revived they were sliding rapidly down the ladder. Flames burst from the windows and screeched them as they passed, and almost as they touched the ground there was a fearful crash, a lurid glare and a dense shower of sparks falling all about him. He looked up. The entire upper part of the building had fallen in.

"Oh, Pete! Pete! Pete!" he cried, and engines thundered, and firemen shouted, and people, half crazy, rushed in every direction. He had dropped his crutch in the hall, but his box and carpet still hung by the strap upon his shoulder as he limped along, dodging and stumbling, without knowing what he was doing, still moaning: "Oh, Pete! Pete! Pete!" till he realized that he had left the crowd behind him, and was at the very spot where Pete had promised to meet him.

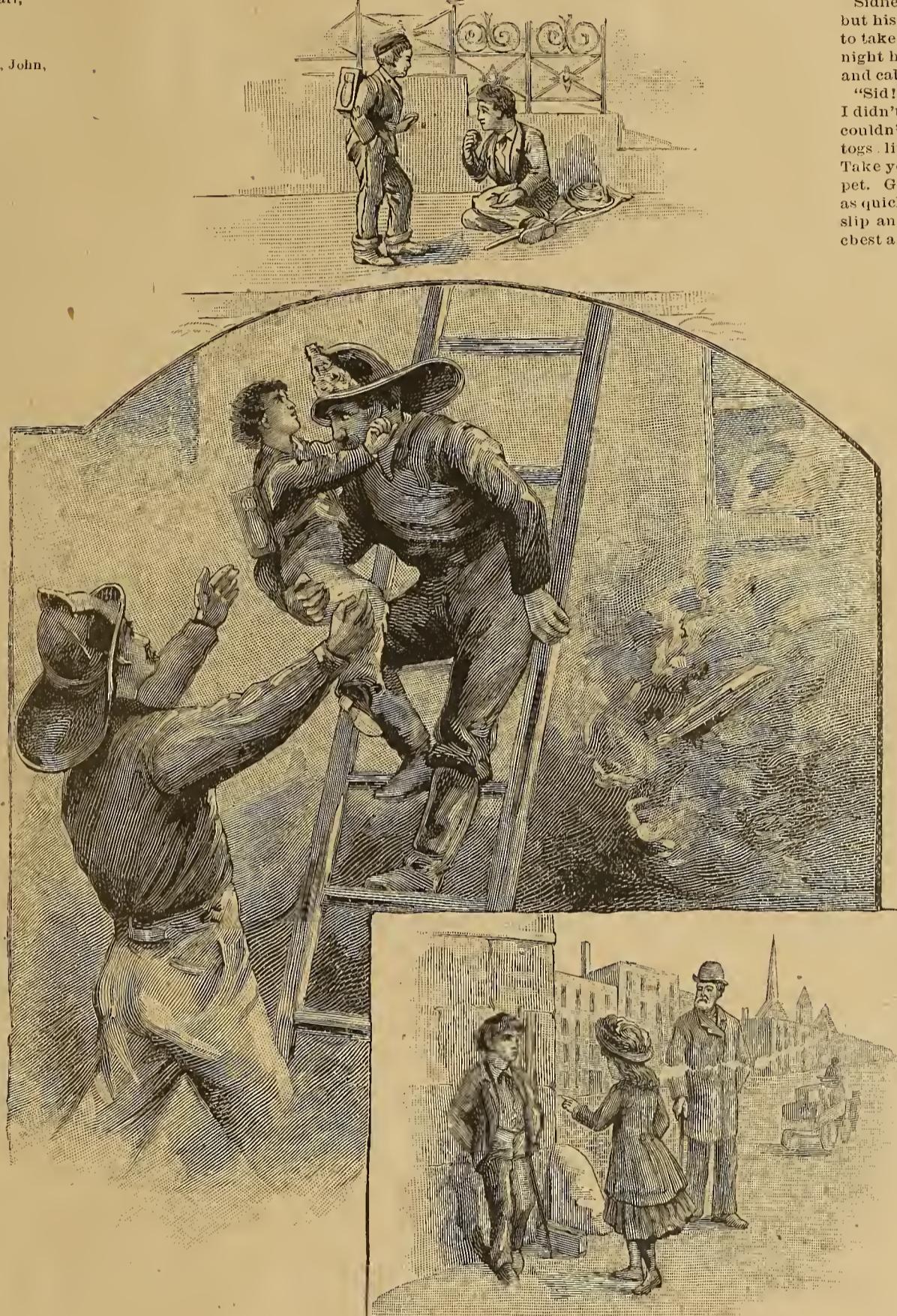
He crept into the sheltered corner and sat down on the pavement, looking up into the sparkling sky. He wondered if

the angels were already carrying Pete farther and farther away from him, up through those bright stars, and why God should have taken such a boy as Pete and left a good-for-nothing cripple to limp about.

Great, burring tears ran down his cheeks, and he watched until the stars grew dim and the sky grew bright. Then he forgot his sorrow and fell asleep.

The street was full of people when he woke, and a man who had been watching him for some time came up and spoke to him. He spoke very poor English, and with a strange accent, but Sidney realized that he was making him a wonderful offer, if he would put himself in his charge, and do nothing all day but sit where he should tell him, with his foot so that everyone could see it, and his cap upside down beside him. He told Sidney that he already had many people engaged in the same way, and how rapidly they were all growing rich, and of a multitude in New York who had already made great fortunes by his help.

The little cripple listened with wide-open eyes, never doubtng the truth of the



"BET YOURE HUNGRY," OBSERVED THE BOOT-BLACK. WHEN HE REVIVED THEY WERE SLIDING RAPIDLY DOWN THE LADDER. BUT THE BEWILDERED BOY HELD HIS HANDS FIRMLY BEHIND HIM.

slowly toward him. He was eating an apple and holding a large one in his hand.

"Say, don'tcher want 'n apple?" he asked.

"Thank you," Sidney exclaimed, taking it eagerly and beginning to eat.

"Bet you're hungry," observed the boot-black with satisfaction.

"Awfully," Sidney responded.

"Seen ye here all day, ain't I?" he asked.

"Ever since the steamer got in," Sidney replied.

"Got any folks in New York?"

Sidney shook his head.

"No place to go?"

Another shake.

"Lost?"

He shook his head again.

"Run away?"

Sidney thought for a moment, then he nodded.

"Well I'll be licked," observed the boot-black sympathetically, coming a little closer and sitting down on a *fender*. "My name's Pete. What's your'n?"

"Sidney," said the cripple between bites.

I've got his piece o' carpet an' his box yet. It's a fine one, an' the boys wanted ter buy it, but I wouldn't sell it 'cause 'twas his'n."

There were tears in the boot-black's eyes, though he tried to hide them. Sidney was almost crying, too, when Pete looked away up the wharf and said:

"Ef you ain't got nothin' better yer can come 'long 'i' me, same's my brother, an' have his box an' carpet, an' see 'f yer like it."

"Indeed I will," Sidney exclaimed, smiling through his tears.

"Come on, then," said Pete. "We'll have supper. Then we'll go to the room an' I'll teach ye. Don'tcher mind the fellers. They allers bother new ones; but I'll show 'em you're my friend, and they knows me."

He was guiding Sidney gently across the street, but one firm, dirty little fist doubled up squarely as he spoke.

Thus the little cripple weathered the first rough touch of the real world, in spite of the village doctor's fears, and he found in it something very tender and gentle, in its own rough way.

stories. It was a wonderful opportunity; he must have money, and bow hard and slow it would be, beginning all over again to earn it blacking boots, all alone, without Pete.

What the man proposed seemed to him very much like begging, and yet it might not be. But suppose it were? If so many did it, and became so rich, why should not he? He must have the money, or he could not study medicine.

Sidney had gained one excellent quality from Pete's counsels. It was caution. He realized that his brain was so bewildered that he could not think, and the most of a promise which the vile beggar manager could extort from him was that if he decided to accept he would meet him at that place at six o'clock in the afternoon.

All day long, between choking sobs for Pete, the temptation returned and grew constantly stronger. As if to help it along, work came slower than ever before. Early in the afternoon he limped onto the wharf, where he and Pete often spent an hour or two on Thursdays to catch the passengers upon the German line steamer sailing that day; but it was still the same. He stood by the great post at the gang-plank, silently looking on, without a customer. He had no heart to call: "Shine yer boots, gent? Shine?" for Pete had always done that for both, and done it merrily and lustily.

His eyes were so full of tears that he could not see even if any one did nod to him. So he stood there, and the ship's doctor, who was taking a last turn on the wharf before the steamer started, paused for a moment to look at the ragged little boot-blacker, with a strange mass of curling hair, a heavy clubshoe, a thin, white face and great black eyes.

"They would haunt one forever," he said to himself, "if they looked resentment for an injury," and to obtain a better glimpse of what might lie behind them, he called to Sidney for a shine.

He forgot that his boots had been carefully polished less than half an hour before. He was simply watching for an opportunity to obtain one good look into those eyes, and as Sidney bent over the first boot he turned, in surprise, and looked up. It was so sudden that the ship's doctor started, involuntarily, and uttered an exclamation in German.

They were surely very strange eyes, at that moment, filled with so many conflicting emotions, and to the doctor's still greater astonishment, the little boot-blacker replied to his exclamation in excellent German; though he simply said that he could not improve the boots by blacking them.

"Never mind. Go ahead and try," said the doctor, and as the brushes began their work, he asked, "Are you a German?"

"No, sir," was the brief reply, but a little later Sidney asked: "Isn't Germany the best place to study medicine?"

At that moment the fifteen-minute whistle sounded, and the little cripple started and shuddered, causing the doctor to forget to answer his question. He had almost finished his work when he repeated:

"Can't any one become a great doctor if he studies in Germany?"

The ship's doctor looked at the cringing little cripple with a smile of pity as he replied:

"I suppose that philosophy would say that if any one really tries he can accomplish what he will, and surely there are chances enough for studying medicine in Germany, if that is what you mean."

He looked at his boots, put his hands in his pocket and mechanically asked:

"How much?"

"It is nothing, sir. I have not made them any brighter," Sidney said, and began packing up his brushes.

The doctor threw a quarter on the carpet and turned away.

Sidney had no heart for work. He threw the box over his shoulder, and leaned against the post, trying to settle the question of his future. A new idea had occurred to him. He was struggling with it, with might and main, when a gentleman, holding his little daughter by the hand, came down the gang-plank with others, who had been bidding friends good-by.

Sidney's eyes rested on the little girl, and involuntarily he uttered a cry. The gentleman looked down at him. The cripple's eyes fell, and he muttered:

"Shine yer boots, gent? Shine?"

"Not to-day," said the gentleman kindly, and was going on when his little daughter tugged upon his hand, whispering:

"See, papa, he's lame and looks so tired. Give me a gold dollar for him, papa, please?"

There was no resisting the appeal. He gave her the coin, and she stepped timidly up to Sidney; but the bewildered boy held his hands firmly behind him, so she dropped it into his pocket, whispering:

"You'll not spend it for anything naughty, will you? And if you see me some time, will you remember me and tell me what you did with it?"

"Of course I shall remember you!" Sidney exclaimed. "I have always remembered you, but I didn't know that you were real. I thought you were an angel."

With a merry laugh she joined her father, never thinking of that autumn morning down in the Shenandoah valley, or realizing that there upon the wharf she had just been one of God's best angels, with a helping hand for a troubled heart.

"I guess I'll settle this matter right off quick," Sidney said to himself. "I can't go on shinning boots without Pete. It's no use. If I go with that man, I shall be a beggar."

He thought of the gold dollar in his pocket. "And there's only one other thing that I know of that I can do. Now," he said, stepping away from the post and lifting his lame foot. "If I'd be proud to tell her I put that dollar with money I got by begging, then I'll go with that man; but my foot shall not touch the wharf again till I decide, and the minute I decide I will do it."

[To be continued.]

THE QUEEN OF THE POOR-HOUSE.

SHE was not at all regal in appearance as she stood in the door of her daughter's house that lovely spring morning, quite unmindful of the sweet scent of the apple-blossoms, or the song of the robin in the elm-tree as, with her withered old hand lifted anxiously to her eyes, she peered down the long village street.

The cottage was low and brown, with windows, now bare and leafless, running over the porches. The open door revealed a small parlor, plainly furnished, yet neat and spotlessly clean, and three children, one looking down the street beside the figure in the door, the others beside their mother, Maria Jackson, who sat in a low rocker with an expression of anxious interest upon her face, a face thin and still pretty in spite of the lines of care traced upon it.

The old lady was tall and broad, and she wore a faded, black bonnet, covering but partially the hair underneath, which had not turned a generous or pretty gray, yielding up its dark coloring reluctantly and fitfully, so that shades of color from brown to a greenish-yellow, from that on to a silvery white streaked her head with curious effect. A black shawl was folded about her ample shoulders, a flower with sprouting leaves embroidered in the corner which hung behind her, and a trunk stood just inside the door, evidently ready for the coming of a dray.

"It's mighty queer, Mari'. It can't be John's given up going to-day?" with a questioning inflection of a voice none too sweet or soft.

"There's no telling, mother. John always was queer." Maria set her lips firmly over an unvoiced suspicion of her own.

"He wasn't either. It was always you that was queer, Mari'," replied the old lady with querulous impatience.

"Maybe Uncle John's gone and left you, gramma," suggested the child by her side, usually her favorite.

"Shut up, you little hussy! As if your uncle would dare treat his mother that way. Just like you, Mari', bringin' up the children to be sassy and disrespectful to their old gramma."

The child in disgrace cowered hastily back from the box on the ear which the grandmother's uplifted palm threatened, while Maria bit in the words which came to her lips; she did not wish this last hour of her mother's stay with her to be one of contention.

Half an hour slipped away, the train whistled in the distance, another half hour of suspense, and still no John appeared, and the old lady sank down on the trunk in anxious perplexity.

A neighbor's boy drove past on a grocer's wagon.

"Did you see anything of John?" called Maria from the doorway.

"Yessum. John is gone, seen him get on the train myself."

"He's gone, mother," said Maria, stepping back into the room with a curious white look upon her face. "You might as well take off your bonnet."

The old lady gave her a look of mingled fury and sorrow, rising slowly to her feet and walking to her room with halting steps. Then the door closed with a bang which shook the windows, and the little family were alone.

"Gramma's awful mad, ain't she?" said little Susie.

"It is a mean trick, anyhow, to play off on an old lady. If I was a man I'd lick Uncle John, I would," and little John, his namesake, doubled his small fists threateningly.

"We shall have to go right on hein' good an' quiet, an' sewin' long seams," mourned Bessie, the eldest. "It was going to be such fun having no one but mama to boss us."

But Maria said nothing, going about with that queer look upon her face.

Meanwhile John, Sr., was speedling away on the train with the creepy feeling of a man who has been stealing sheep and is caught with the smell of wool upon his hands. Really, the poor fellow had been suspended between the frying-pan and the fire during his visit to his mother and sister.

Martha, his wife, had charged him in no uncertain tone to come home alone.

"If you bring that domineering old woman here, she will rule your house without me in it," she had said at parting.

Martha was not given to idle threats, and John, with a vivid remembrance of the size and warmth of the maternal temper, quaked in his shoes at the idea of being left alone with it.

"John, you must take mother home with you," had been Maria's first confidential assertion. "Lisha said in his last letter that he

should never come back from the mines so long as I kept mother, and I can't remain a widow always for her sake."

"What's the matter with her and Lish?" asked John, feeling his hair rise on his head.

"Why, she will interfere, and you know Lisba, how set he is as to the divine right of a man to rule his own household."

"John, my son, I've about concluded to go home with you," said the old lady a day later, in a mildly patronizing tone. "I hate to leave Mari' and the children, but I feel that a change would be good for me."

And John thought of Martha, and wished he had never been born. Still he was not brave enough to make the confession which would turn his visit into a mimic invasion of a hornet's nest, and allowed his mother to pack her trunk, quite unsuspecting of his felonious intent. The saying,

"He who fights and runs away,
May live to fight another day."

Fitted his case exactly, and he followed its suggestion.

The day following John's escape the old lady emerged from her bedroom (where she had shut herself in, refusing to speak to Maria, whom she evidently blamed for the whole transaction), dressed for the street, and stalking out of the house with an air of mysterious importance.

"Gramma hasn't even uncorded her trunk yet, mommie," said Susie, after peering into the deserted room with a child's curiosity.

"I wonder where she can have gone?" Maria asked herself uneasily.

She found out the week following, when Mr. Bowman, the overseer of the poor, drove up to the door and entered briskly.

"Well, old lady, if your trunk is ready we'll go right along. I'm in something of a hurry this morning."

"Go—go where?" asked Maria, looking ready to faint.

Her mother had stepped into the bedroom.

"Well, Mrs. Jackson, your mother represents to the board that she has no means of support, that you don't want her, and that her son doesn't support her, and that she has no refuge but the county-house. It is all true, I suppose? I know Lish' Jackson's mind—," lowering his voice cautiously.

"Yes—but—but I'd work my fingers to the bone to give her a home somewhere else," said poor Maria, sobbing and wringing her hands in distress. "It is such a disgrace, Mr. Bowman. Everybody will blame me, when I've done the very best I could. What shall I do?"

"Do? Well, now, Mrs. Jackson, if you'll take my advice, you'll let the old lady go and try it a spell, anyhow. The county's rich enough to stand it, and a woman ain't in duty bound to harbor anybody or anything that separates her from her own lawful husband. Now that's a clean case, accordin' to my mind, if you'll allow me to speak it."

"Well, good-by, Mari'," said the old lady, coming out from the bedroom with her bonnet and shawl on, and dragging the trunk, not over large or heavy, by the handle.

"I hope you'll enjoy the inside of your house as much as I shall the outside."

"Oh, mother! How could you?" sobbed Maria.

"Some folks' pride needs 'umblin', I reckon," was the grim answer, as the trunk was lifted out of the door. "Tell Lisher to run up an' see me when he comes home," with which parting sarcasm she marched out of the door, followed by the children, who, not at all understanding the drift of affairs, plied her with curious questions, until Mr. Bowman flipped his whip over the horse's back and drove off.

"That I should ever live to see my own mother driven off to the poor-house," sobbed Maria discolorately, as they went. Still, after she had had her cry out, and had satisfied the eager questioning of the children, she was conscious of a feeling of sweet relief creeping into her heart.

"We can have some codfish for dinner, now gramma's gone, can't we?" asked little Susie.

"Say, mommie, can gramma pick out her dinners and say what she'll have up there to the poor-house, like she did here?"

"I'm afraid not, Susie. I fear poor gramma will be treated to codfish far oftener than she likes there," replied Maria, with a hysterical compromise between a laugh and a sob.

The poor-house was a large, plain building, situated upon the very top of a bare, bleak hill. It looked like a vast bird-house, with its regular rows of windows and its utter simplicity of design, and so it was a refuge for the fledglings of poverty who had nowhere else to go. There was not a tree or shrub to shelter it from the winds in winter or from the fierce rays of the summer's sun, and the inside was as barren as the outside of those little abodes which distinguish a home from a place merely in which to stay.

There was the smallest possible complement of furniture which bare necessity demanded in the rooms of the inmates, with a little more of luxury and home comforts in the apartments occupied by the overseer's family.

The building was a new one, just erected by the county, and with reference to its future growth and the probable increase of its pauper population, so there were more rooms than inmates at present, hence the new boarder had no difficulty in securing a choice of rooms.

Quite unheeded to Maria she had kept a

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Our Household.

A DRESSMAKER'S DILEMMA—A FACT.

I'm but a simple dressmaker in quite a humble way,
Who tries to do her duty and would never disobey
A plain commandment given in the Scriptures unto men,
For I read my Bible every night from half past nine to ten.

Now Uncle Jim who preaches in the chapel over there,
And knows his Bible backwards (though I've also heard him swear),
Came in to me the other night and solemnly sat down,
And said: "Maria, let me see your last unfinished gown."

I knew he hated fashions, but I humbly brought the dress;
He took the sleeves, examined them, and cried in triumph: "Yes,
I feared as much; your style in gowns has gone from bad to worse,
Until at last you've brought yourself beneath the prophet's curse!"

I looked in blank amazement at my uncle; was he mad?
What could he find so awful in a simple shoulder pad?
This year, since fashion willed that ladies' shoulders should be high,
We had to pad the dresses. Paris to blame, not I.

He took my Bible from the shelf before my wondering eyes,
And found the thirteenth chapter of Ezekiel's prophecies,
And "Read," said he, "the eighteenth verse, 'Thus saith the Lord God: Woe to th' women that sew pillows to all armholes!' Is it so?"

The words were there as clear as day. "And now," said Uncle Jim,
"Just choose between the prophet's curse and fashion's latest whim;
'Tis you Ezekiel had in mind, to you the Lord saith 'Woe!'
If in your dresses from this time another pad you sew."

Thus saying he departed, and I turned the matter o'er,
And after half an hour felt no wiser than before;
At last I thought I'd venture forth, to ease my troubled mind,
And ask our learned rector, who is always very kind.

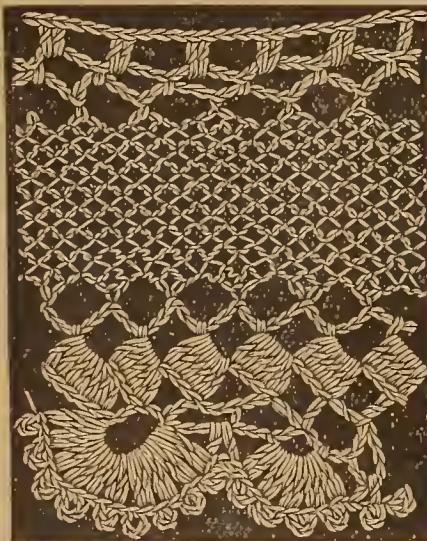
I found him in his study, and in listening to my case
I thought he laughed a little, though I could not see his face,
And then he opened certain books, and certain foot-notes read,
"The authorized translation is not quite correct," he said.

—*The Spectator.*

SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING.

Hard times had been knocking at the door of Charles Freeman's home for some time. During much of the summer he was without work of any kind, and at the beginning of winter was working only half time, and no prospect of things being any better before spring.

Mrs. Freeman, being possessed of what a New-Englander would term faculty, set herself to evolve "something out of nothing," in the way of winter supplies for their wardrobe, and so well did she succeed



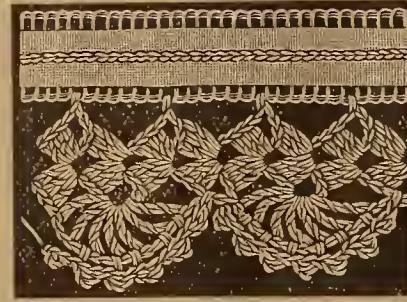
FANCY BRAID.

that she bids me tell the readers of the FARM AND FIRESIDE of her success.

True, she had old garments to begin on, but as in that state they were practically worth nothing, and by many would have been used for carpet or paper rags, her achievements merit chronicling.

She first began planning for garments for Ollie, the seven-year old daughter, and found that she would need only one new suit, two aprons for school, and underwear. The accumulations of several sea-

sons of old underwear were brought out, and by skilful piecing two good, complete suits were soon finished for the little maid. From the best of the lower parts of her father's knit shirts were provided, two good skirts. But what Mrs. Freeman considered her masterpiece was the making of a dress for Ollie from a worn suit of her father's. This was coat and pants of soft, fine, gray cloth, which, when ripped, washed and pressed, was made into a little



FANCY BRAID.

"blazer" suit, the jacket being a little long, as the skirt had to be pieced a little in the back near the belt. The front gore of the skirt was of dark red broadcloth that had done duty over and over again. The back of the skirt was obtained from the best parts of the trousers, narrow side gores being cut from the coat after the blazer was cut. These side gores overlapped the front a trifle, and were held in place by large buttons covered at the tailor-shop, the centers gray and outside of the red cloth. These same buttons were also used on the blazer, the lapels of which were piped with the red. The waist of the dress was of the red, plain in the back, with pretty, full blouse front. From the larger pieces left of the gray were pieced a pair of gaiters, or leggings, to button over the boots, and from the scraps of both red and gray was evolved a running little cap. So Ollie had a complete suit that cost only twenty-five cents in money, twenty cents for the covering of buttons and five cents for thread, for Mrs. Freeman found old linings that answered admirably.

The two-year-old baby, Carl, had reached that transition period when they felt he must leave off Mother-Hubbards and other girl-dresses, and don boy's attire. From the best of Ollie's last winter's flannel dress was made one for him, open in front, with long, plain waist and scantily-plaited skirt. This would answer all winter for an under dress.

In the closet was found a fine, pretty gingham dress of Mrs. Freeman's, made with moderately full skirt and long polonaise. It was just as good as new, but in the first and second washings it had shrunken so badly she could no longer wear it. From this was made first two aprons for Ollie, one a Mother-Hubbard, cut quite low in the neck and sleeveless, a five-inch ruffle of the same being put around the neck; the other a little low-necked, sleeveless Gretchen, with narrow, bias ruffles in neck and armhole.

There was also enough material left to fashion two dresses for baby Carl, for happily little boys' dress skirts do not need to be so full as a girl's. One of these little dresses was made of two widths of the goods, with three box-plaits laid front and back, then the neck, shoulder seams and armholes cut. The little suit was buttoned in front, and a belt of the same added to fasten in front and hold the plait in place, which, being open from here down, formed the fullness for the skirt. What difference did it make if it was pieced at the waist line? The belt hid all that.

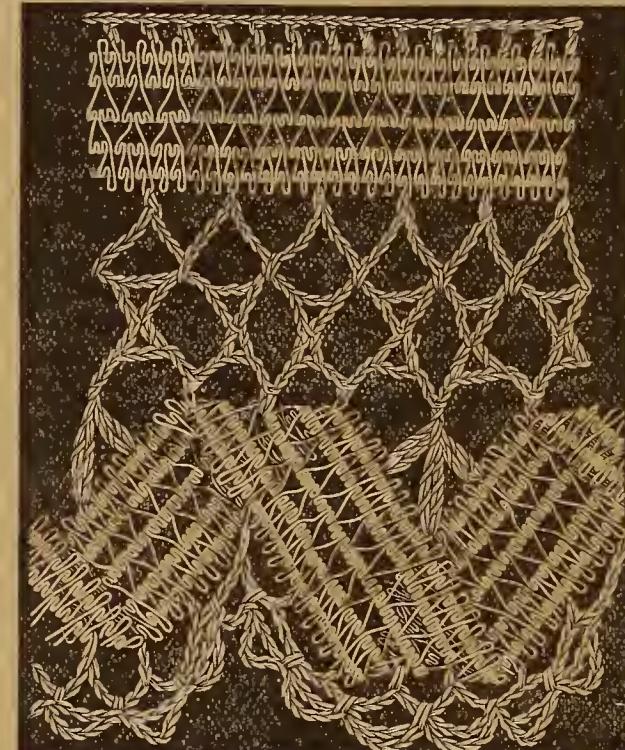
The other little dress had a long waist buttoned in front, with three narrow, bias strips stitched on both front and back, and the scant skirt set on with a little heading of its own. With the addition of three little new blue dresses, Carl was fully fixed for every day.

Among his "baby" dresses were two little white Mother-Hubbards with skirts just alike. From these two skirts Mrs. Freeman easily made a "boy's" dress, with long waist, open in front, and rather scant skirt, the buttons on the two old dresses answering for the one new one. There were also two other little white dresses that were yet quite good, each dress having been cut in two straight widths from neck to hem, one then being Shirred in

about the neck, the other having been laid in fine plaits to simulate a yoke. These were carefully ripped apart, the opening in the back sewed up, and in one the seam covered with a strip of insertion taken from another of his old white dresses. The fullness was then laid in half-inch tucks on each side of this, extending from neck to belt. The front was fixed to correspond, the buttons and buttonholes being covered by another strip of the insertion. By the addition of a deep cuff, the old sleeves could be made to do duty again. These cuffs, the collar and detached, overlapping belt were made of plain white goods—the dress was of striped material—and a pretty suit, number two, was then complete.

The other white dress just mentioned, after being ripped up, had a deep seam taken down the back from neck to waist, ending in a plait at the waist. On either side of this was laid a box-plait extending to the waist. In the front, from neck to belt, was a double ruffle with box-plait on either side. The deep cuffs, put on to make the sleeves long enough, had a narrow ruffle around them, and the edge of the collar was finished with a tiny ruffle.

With these three white dresses for best—which had not cost a cent excepting for thread—Mrs. Freeman decided she could get along for the winter. As Carl's underwear had all, including skirts, been pieced from the best parts of that left after Ollie's was made, and his little coat and cap fashioned from an outgrown cloak of Ollie's—



FANCY BRAID.

even his stockings cut over from her old ones—all the expense for his winter clothing was for the three blue calico dresses and for shoes.

For herself she needed but little excepting a cloak; but when an accident occurred to Mr. Freeman's overcoat, necessitating the purchase of a new one at once, she knew they could not afford money for a cloak, too. She was in despair, until she remembered a fine, black beaver new-market that had been purchased several years before, but after two winters' wear had been laid aside, as she having grown stouter, it was a little narrow across the shoulders and tight about the waist. In the back the skirt had been cut off just below the waist line, and set on again in full plaits, so that the back of skirt, when ripped apart, consisted of two widths as wide at the top as at the bottom. These easily cut new backs for the three-quarter length jacket she proposed to make. The sleeves were plain and tight, but she found that by putting a six-inch piece at the bottom she could cut new sleeves from the lower part of the fronts of the cloak and still leave the upper part of the desired length.

The original cloak had a six-inch band of astrakhan across the bottom of front and extending up the side of the plaited-in back, ending in a fancy ornament above the plaits. Of this, deep cuffs were made to hide the piecing of the sleeves. A modern rolling collar and a facing down the front, which allowed of the cloak being enlarged a trifle more than the new back had done.

When it was complete Mrs. Freeman proudly wore a cloak that looked every whit as well as the one her next door neighbor paid fifteen dollars for. Neither did any one know or even guess at its being "made over," excepting the few inti-

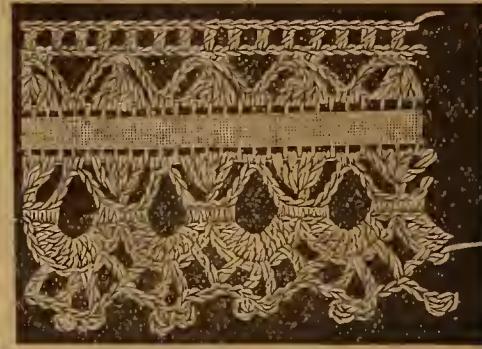
mate friends to whom she confided the secret.

There was also enough of the astrakhan left to make her a pretty and serviceable muff, and Mrs. Freeman had just cause to be proud of her "make-overs."

CLARA SENSBIAUGH EVERETT.

NOVELTIES.

PHOTOGRAPH-HOLDER.—As the album has gone out of style as a decorative cen-



FANCY BRAID.

ter-table piece, it is a quandary with many what to do with the photographs. It is very nice to preserve the different ones of the family in an album, which can then be safely laid away in a private drawer, but for those we want to keep for showing, a very nice receptacle resembling a book is the best. The covering may be of gray linen or pongee silk decorated with painting. Or a bag made of any nice material, finished around with a puffing of silk and drawn up with ribbons. This can hang beside the fireplace or the piano.

FANCY BRAIDS.—In combination with simple crocheting, these braids make very pretty trimming for underwear. The stitches in the samples are so simple as to need no explanation to one who understands the use of the needle.

CORD-WORK.—This is the revival of an old-time work. The pattern is first basted down on the lace and then carefully cut out; it is then followed with a good quality of white cord, which is fastened down with buttonhole-stitch taken wide apart. The lace which is basted beneath the work is to be cut away from all the plain linen; it also gives the effect of fancy stitches.

CORONATION BRAID.—Another style of braid also revived from the past. It is used in combination with embroidery upon linen doilies and table centers, and is sewed on firmly with a needle.

DENIM.—This useful fabric now comes in other colors than blue and brown. A very pretty color is a pale green. It is used for sofa-pillows and decorative purposes. With large effects in conventionalized figures worked in dull shades, it makes a very fetching decoration. It can be used in a telling way as floor-covering, using rugs where the most wear would come.

SATIN-FACED DRILLING.—In pale colors, greens and other shades, satin-faced drilling is used for table-covers.

LOUISE LONG CHRISTIE.

To see women knitting stockings, beginning at the toe; children with heads wrapped round and round in various ker-



FANCY BRAID.

chiefs, but with little limbs and feet bare even in wintry weather; old women still wearing their hair in long plaits down their backs; gentlemen callers entering a parlor with uncovered feet, but covered head—these are only a few of a thousand customs in Persia that are so directly opposite to our own.

No farmer should build fence until he has written to S. H. Garrett, Mansfield, Ohio, for catalogue of Picket and Wire Fence Machine, best in the world. Wire at wholesale direct from the factory to the farmer.

HOME TOPICS.

Eggs.—Eggs should never be cooked before they are twenty-four hours old, as the white of a newly-laid egg is not set. For cake-making or custards the eggs should be two days old. The white of a freshly-laid egg cannot be beaten to a stiff froth unless it is first put in the ice-chest for an hour or two. If kept in a warm place, eggs will very soon become unfit to eat, although they may look all right, and no odor can be detected. The shells are porous, and the air penetrating them, decomposition soon begins. The best test for eggs is to put them into cold water; if they sink, they are fresh enough for cooking. It has been discovered that unfertilized eggs will keep much longer than those that are fertile, and on this account many poultry raisers keep their laying hens separate from the rest of the flock, unless they want the eggs to hatch. The old rule for boiling eggs three minutes is not the best one, as in that way the outside of the white is toughened, while the yolk and inner part of the white remain raw. The best way is to put the eggs into a bright tin pail or saucepan, pour in boiling water enough to cover the eggs, put on a tight cover and let them stand on the back of the stove, where the water will not boil, for six minutes. The eggs will then be jellied all through, and no part of them hard.

A MEDICINE-CABINET.—Some time ago I described a medicine-closet built in the wall, but everyone cannot have that, as it is too much trouble and expense to make it after the house is built. The one I give now any one can make in a few hours, and the expense is trifling. When finished, this cabinet will be both useful and ornamental, and when placed above the wash-stand in a bedroom, will relieve that and the bureau of numerous bottles of vaseline, bay rum, tooth-powders, etc., besides medicine-bottles.

Have a box made as wide as the wash-stand, about eight inches wide and the same in depth. Stain it to match the furniture. Put a small, brass rod across the top of the open side, on which to hang a curtain. If you have a small, framed mirror whose length is the width of the box, it may be put in the center of the open side, with a little curtain on either side of it. Set the cabinet on two stout, iron brackets at a convenient height above the wash-stand. The top can be used as a shelf to hold a clock and pair of candlesticks or some mantel ornaments. The brackets and mirror frame may be gilded, and with a pretty curtain this cabinet will be an ornament to any room.

A friend of mine, who has several grown sons and daughters, says she is going to have one put in the upper hall, where all



MEDICINE-CABINET.

the simple remedies, an alcohol-lamp, tin cup, hot-water bag, etc., may be kept and be convenient for each member of the family.

MAIDA McL.

AN ASTHMA CURE AT LAST.

European physicians and medical journals report a positive cure for Asthma, in the Kola plant, found on the Congo River, West Africa. The Kola Importing Co., 1161 Broadway, New York, are sending free trial cases of the Kola Compound by mail to all sufferers from Asthma, who send name and address on a postal card. A trial costs you nothing.

A FORTUNATE MAN

He who can have the delights in his own home, that cost the millions which were expended on the World's Fair buildings and grounds. Read our offer on another page.

The Art of Cake-making.

[Continued.]

As was promised in our last, the subject for this article will be the art of making angel and sponge cakes, which is entirely different from that of butter cakes. How few cake-makers we find who make successfully both classes. The reason for this is that they make them all by the same method, and what improved the one injured the other, and we find very few making the more delicate sponge-cakes, because they have tried to make them in the same way as they did the other class, and have failed so many times that they have given up in despair, considering the art too hard for them to master.

These cakes are the most difficult and at the same time the easiest class to make. The most difficult because they are the most sensitive, and everything must be right in order to insure success. If everything else is right and spring-wheat flour is used instead of winter wheat, the cake will not rise easily and will be tough. Again, if the rotary beater is used instead of the whip, to beat the whites of the eggs, it will not fill the mass with the required air-cells, and the cake will not raise easily and will be tough; and even with all this as it should be, the cake can be spoiled by stirring it too much after the flour is added, for every stroke of the spoon at this point tends to toughen the batter. When all this is right, they are the easiest and most reliable cakes to make.

Then, first let us take up the angel cake, in which are used the whites of the eggs only, and the easiest cake to make, providing everything is right; but being the most sensitive, may have tried it, and not having followed the required rules, have failed. And thus it is that the impression has gone forth that this cake is so difficult to make. Let all who have this impression follow carefully these instructions, and success will surely crown their efforts.

In making this cake, select fresh eggs, pastry flour (winter wheat) and granulated sugar. After sifting the flour three or four times, measure and set aside the required amount; then sift the sugar once, measure and set aside. Separate the eggs, putting the whites in an ordinary mixing-bowl large enough to hold the cake. Add a pinch of salt to the whites of the eggs, and with a whip beater beat them about one half, or until they are nicely foamed through; then add the cream of tartar and beat until very stiff. Now lay aside the beater, add the sugar, and with a spoon beat until the sugar is dissolved and the mass looks smooth and creamy, being careful to beat up all the time, to keep the mass light, for if this is broken down it will not rise again, and the cake will be a failure. Add the flavor and beat it in; then add the flour and fold it lightly through, being careful not to overdo this. At this point it is better for the batter not to be mixed enough than too much, for if any flour is found in the batter when being transferred to the mold, it can be mixed in after it is in the mold, but if it has been stirred too much, the batter will be tough, and there is no remedy.

This cake must be baked in an ungreased mold, allowing it to stick to the tin so that it can be inverted and allowed to hang in the mold to cool, which is the only way known to keep it from settling.

For the sponge-cake, prepare materials as for angel cake, putting the whites of the eggs in the large bowl in which the cake is to be mixed, and the yolks in a small bowl. Beat the yolks until light and foamy, then beat the whites as for angel cake, adding the salt and cream of tartar in the same way. To the beaten whites add the sugar, and with a spoon beat until it is dissolved; to this add the beaten yolks and beat until thoroughly mixed. Add the flavor and beat it in, and last the flour, and fold it lightly through, the same as with the angel cake.

The formula for mixing the sunshine cake is exactly like that given for sponge-cake, and these, like the angel cake, must be baked in an ungreased mold and allowed to hang in the mold to cool.

These cakes, as a rule, will require a hotter oven than butter cakes, for the batter being lighter, they will rise quicker, and therefore should be baked faster. Although the same rule applies to this class as to the others, which is to allow the cake to rise to the required lightness before browning over, then increase the heat and bake as fast as practicable.

MRS. M. A. CHAPMAN.

LADIES' FIGARO WAIST, WITH RIPPLE SKIRT, SLEEVE-CAPS AND CUFFS.

The model of this handsome waist was of heliotrope satin with Zouave-jacket, sleeve-caps, ripple skirt and cuffs of olive velvet, trimmed with Byzantine braid. Belt, corsage straps and butterfly bows of velvet ribbou. This is a stylish design for a dressy house waist, and will be much used for summer street toilets.



No. 4047.—LADIES' FIGARO WAIST.

The Zouave-jacket with sleeve-caps can be made separately if so desired, so that the waist can be worn either with or without the jacket. Very stylish combinations can be effected by the mode, which will be found a good model for sateen, percale, gingham or other cotton material, a combination of plain and figured goods being particularly stylish. Lace insertion is very popular for trimming just at present. Black India silk, with velvet and cream lace insertion, makes a notably effective and stylish waist.

LADIES' COAT BASQUE, WITH VEST.

Navy blue hopsacking, with vest of white corduroy, was chosen for this simply stylish basque. It is a notable favorite for early spring costumes, as its graceful outlines will be found becoming to both youthful and matronly figures.

Vests of brocade satin and silk are attractively combined with basques of plain woolen texture, and the early spring novelties will make up charmingly by the mode. The broad revers can be faced to match the vest, or else made of the basque material.

In order that the readers of the fashion columns of the FARM AND FIRESIDE may not only read about the latest styles and newest patterns, but have the patterns themselves, I have arranged to furnish patterns No. 4046 and No. 4047 for ten cents



No. 4046.—LADIES' BASQUE.

each. This is furnishing the patterns at cost, but I do it to accommodate our readers. Every pattern is cut according to the latest styles and designs and thoroughly complete and reliable in every way. Full and explicit directions for putting together the garment accompany each pattern. In ordering, give the number of the pattern wanted, also best measure if for ladies, and age if for children, and send a silver dime or ten cents in new, clean stamps, and I will mail you the pattern, postage prepaid. I am sure that you will be delighted with them, and agree with me that they are a great bargain. Address

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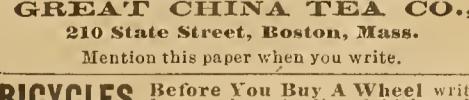
We give away Lace Curtains, with \$4, \$6, or \$8 orders. White Tea Set, 56 and 70 pieces, with \$11 and \$13 orders. Pair Ladies' Dongoli Kid Boots, with \$6 orders. Safety Bicycle, Cushion Tires, with \$8 orders. Decorated Granite Dinner Sets, 112 pieces, with \$20 orders. Hanging Lamp and Decorated Shade, with \$10 & \$12 orders. Violin, Banjo and Guitar, with \$12, \$16, and \$25 orders. Moss Rose Toilet Set, with \$15 orders. Stem Winding Swiss Watch, Ladies' or Boy's, with \$10 orders.

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Our Household.

RESERVES FOR SICKNESS.

Every mother or housekeeper at the head of a family or household should, if she can possibly afford anything beyond the things sufficient unto the day, hold a certain quantity of supplies in reserve for sickness. If a household is large, this is more difficult to do with slender means than if small; but the necessity, in that case, is largely increased.

In these days, when it is possible in cities to buy almost everything ready-made, at a moment's notice, in the stores, less attention is paid to this matter of household and family reserves than it deserves to have devoted to it. We act on the same principle of living from hand to mouth where there are daily markets, though there is less to be urged in its favor.

Sickness comes on us suddenly, like a thief in the night. More often, perhaps, than otherwise it comes in the hours of darkness, arousing a startled family from sleep to the emergency of sudden and definite action. Often the manifestations of disease are of so violent and distressing a nature that a bed must be changed, and the sleeping-garment of a patient, before a physician can be admitted to the sick-room. In the haste and excitement there is often difficulty in finding the things desired, unless special provision has been made for a situation like this, and those who minister to the sick one know just where the sheets, pillow-cases and gowns are to be looked for.

A number of nightgowns—as many as one feels able to afford beyond those in constant use—should be laid away in some

as long for acids to eat the threads of one make of cotton as of another. And surely, one who has once slept in Lonsdale gowns would not willingly change into what is heavier.

With light muslins, tucks are not altogether tabooed, but they should be used with caution, and never be carelessly laid to overlap each other, and so become bungling. Ruffles of dimity, cambric or even light embroidery may be used, although lace, to my thinking, is preferable. The gown should always be sufficiently full. Even the largest size of those to be bought in the stores are open to the objection of lack of fullness. They are seldom made with sufficient breadth in the skirts, except for very small women. This difficulty the mother may avert by making her own or her daughter's in time of health. She may thus avoid restriction of movement when, fevered and weary, she tosses from side to side, seeking rest, on a bed of sickness.

The men of the family should also be provided with extra night-shirts, although these it is not necessary to make at home.

I knew a lady who, when well, prided herself on her elegant toilets. In order to dress up to the standard she set for herself, she restricted her night and under clothing to exceedingly few changes. Taken suddenly ill one night, when one of her two gowns had not been returned from the wash, she was obliged to be arrayed in a faded, old blue wrapper when the physician arrived.

All the other conveniences were of like nature. In speaking of the matter afterward, he said he was never more surprised in his life, although his experience had long since taught him that there was often a very great difference between the way people appeared on the streets and the houses they lived in and night-clothes they wore.

In these days of cheap muslin, when seamless sheeting of excellent quality, two and a half yards wide, can be bought in different grades from twenty to

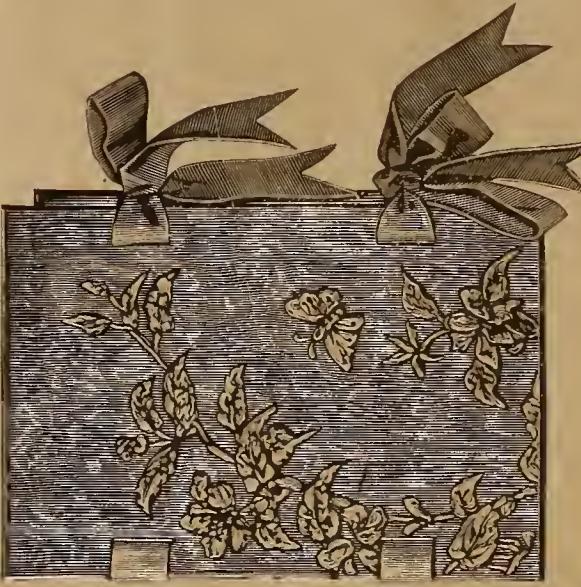
thirty cents, the wider ranging a little higher, no one needs to waste much time, as formerly, in the over-and-oversewing of seams in sheets. A saleswoman who recently sold me some of this seamless sheeting, volunteered a piece of information that may, or may not, be worth something. He said that in tearing the muslin it should not be torn from edge to edge, and neither should it be cut; but it should be torn from the fold, each way. Said he, "If you find one side longer at one end, and the other side longer at the other, don't cut any off. Hem it as it is, and when it is washed it will come out all right." We have all had our difficulty with a corner too long, or a corner too short, on these sheets, and perhaps this advice may be of value.

There is no advantage in buying unbleached sheeting with the expectation that it will bleach out after awhile and wear longer, for the reason above given concerning the washerwoman. Even where ladies do their own washing and eschew sal-soda and washing-fluids, an unbleached sheet never comes to the clear whiteness of a bleached one. There is always something dingy about it; it irons less smoothly, and is not so cool and restful to the touch.

In the matter of pillow-cases, there is nothing so convenient in sickness or so pleasant to sleep on as a case with an opening in one end, into and out of which the pillow can readily be dropped. A case like this should fall below the end of the pillow, and on this surplus end the taste and fancy may work its will. Embroidery, a ruffle, lace or what not may edge the deep hem, above which a cluster of tucks looks very smart. When we are well, we may

button or tie our pillows into tight-fitting cases elaborately covered with needlework, if we like and can afford it; but when we become sick, the simplest way is always the best.

Physicians are averse to the use of "comforts" in zymotic diseases, in which the contagion is carried by means of germs. They prefer blankets, which can readily be washed. Where an extra pair of pretty blankets can be reserved for



PHOTOGRAPH-HOLDER.

sickness only, and washed after each case of it, such reserve is to be recommended. A physician once told me of the death of a little child from diphtheria by sleeping under the comfort which had been over her brother, who had recovered from the disease.

Winter days and evenings, when one cannot go out so freely, and does not desire constantly to read when other work is done, furnish a good season in which to do the muslin sewing suggested, if one has not already such reserves against sickness.

MINNIE W. BAINES-MILLER.

TROPICAL BEDDING.

Plant life furnishes many desirable forms which may be used for grouping even in the far North, and produce effects truly tropical in appearance. From seed we may easily raise plants of Ricinus, or castor-bean, and by a judicious use of varieties produce good effects. Nicotina, a species of tobacco-plant, may also be raised from seed, and furnishes us with plants for tropical effects. Nicotina red-flowered is a magnificent variety, with large, luxuriant foliage. The bloom is an immense cluster of bright crimson flowers, and lasts from midsummer until frost. The plant will grow five or six feet high. N. colossea is a handsome variety. The foliage is rose-colored early in the season, gradually changing to deep green with reddish veins. The leaves are very large, and the plant readily attains a height of five feet in one season.

The varieties of the ornamental leaf beet, a beet with no tubers, are very effective in tropical bedding, but do not exceed two feet in height. However, they must be used by themselves or as borders for the taller plants.

For plants of a more enduring character the varieties of cannae are very desirable. The several strains now furnish us with all the shades of green and brownish-red in the foliage, with bloom from brilliant red to the most delicate yellow. The plants, according to variety, vary in height from one and a half feet to six or seven feet and often taller, so that it will be readily seen what striking effects may be produced in tropical bedding by the use of the proper varieties. As a rule it is best to obtain the dormant roots early, in March or April, pot them and start into growth, so that they will show six to nine inches of vigorous top at transplanting-time, the latter part of May.

Caladium esculentum, or elephant's-ear, as it is commonly known, is indispensable in tropical bedding. The foliage is of an attractive shade of green, broad and drooping on a strong stem. It certainly resembles in size and form an elephant's ear more than anything else. The dormant bulbs may be started early in pots as directed for cannae, or planted out in the open ground in May. When used in conjunction with cannae, as they generally are, forming the border or foreground, they should be started in pots and afterward transplanted. Caladiums are very desirable for partially shaded situations, and form a most attractive background, with begonias, ferns, torenia and other plants of a similar nature (requiring partial shade) in front.

In the hands of a careful grower, not necessarily a skilled grower, we know of few things with which we may produce richer or more striking effects for so small a cost as with the plants here described. A close study of the individual markings of the several varieties of each class will enable one to group them in a most artistic and harmonious manner.

A LANSINGBURG MIRACLE.

A RAILWAY MAN TALKS.

LITERALLY HALF DEAD, HIS CASE PRONOUNCED HOPELESS BY PROMINENT PHYSICIANS—A STORY OF SURPASSING INTEREST VERIFIED UNDER OATH.

[From *Troy, N. Y., Times*.]

I am the most conservative reporter on the staff. I despise the chimerical, I court the real. I burrow in facts. I am from Lansingburg. We don't often get a good thing from there, but here is one. F. C. Kimball last night gave me the following:

"I am a plain, straightforward man. Originally from Lansingburg, where now reside my mother, brother and sister, several years ago I moved to Rochester. There I was in the employ of the Erie Railroad as yard and freight superintendent. After a strain to my back, caused by heavy lifting, three years ago, I developed so-called rheumatism. It was an increasing thing for two years—at times worse, again better. I worked intermittently. If I would shut my eyes I would fall down. My feet and legs soon lost feeling—were dumb. This extended to my stomach and at times to my hands. Doctors Lee and Spencer, of Rochester, finally pronounced my case progressive locomotor ataxia, said it was incurable, and that they could only ease my sufferings. Up to this time I had been sick nearly two years. Before this and for several months I was confined to my bed. Pins stuck into my limbs the full length gave me no feeling whatever; my legs seemed wooden. To pound them gave off a noise like wood. So I say, as I lay there I was absolutely one half dead—dead from the waist down. There was one word written in large characters all over that sick-room—C-L-A-Y. Life departed from my limbs, that word best expressed what was left. I sent for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, to Schenectady, N. Y., and took them irregularly for two months. They didn't seem to help. All of a sudden one morning one of my legs began to prickle—seemed as though rubbed with nettles. Then, perhaps, you think I did not investigate that medicine. I began to mend fast; got some circulation, got control of my bowels, and after a few weeks got out of bed and tried to stand. At last I could walk—now I can run. And Pink Pills cured me. The doctors said I couldn't be cured, but I am. If you will allow me I should like to make affidavit to the above to emphasize the matter in every particular." This was accordingly done.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 4th day of April, 1893.

JAS. A. VAN VOOST, Notary Public.

Mr. Kimball's mother said: "While I believe in answers to prayers and prayed earnestly for his recovery, for I am a Christian woman, and believe my prayers were answered, I do think Pink Pills were the means the Lord used to effect my son's cure. I want you to meet my daughter, Mrs. G. H. Morrison, with whom we are living here, and the Rev. George Fairlee, pastor of Westminster church, who lives with us, and hear what they have to say." The reporter heard from the lips of the sister and their pastor, corroborative words of all that has been said. The reporter also ran across the son-in-law, Mr. G. H. Morrison, cashier of the National Bank of Troy, who said: "He says he was cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I think that is about the size of it."

Mr. William H. Flandreau, the druggist at 814 River street, Troy, said: "This is a most wonderful cure from locomotor ataxia—a so-called incurable disease."

Druggists say that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have an enormous sale. An analysis proves that they contain in a condensed form all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effects of la grippe, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexions, that tired feeling resulting from nervous prostration; all diseases resulting from vitiated humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. They are also a specific for troubles peculiar to females, such as suppressions, irregularities, and all forms of weakness. They build up the blood, and restore the glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. In men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork or excesses of whatever nature. Pink Pills are sold by all dealers, or will be sent postpaid on receipt of price (50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50—they are never sold in bulk or by the 100), by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y., or Brockville, Ontario.

FLORICULTURE and
KITCHEN GARDENING.

IMPROVED TEN-WEEKS STOCKS.

The blossoms of the stock of to-day are no more to be compared with those of five years ago than are the blossoms of the pansy we know to the small bloomer of its earlier days. The blossoms of the best varieties of stock are not only many of them double, but they are very perfect in form, more profuse in bloom and more lasting than the older sorts.

Our illustration was drawn from life from blossoms on plants in the greenhouse. The seed was sown on the 10th of March and the first bloom appeared on the 11th of May, a period of about nine weeks. Of course, allowance must be made for the advantages of glass in bringing the plants to perfection so quickly. The variety is the Dwarf Snowflake, which is extensively used for forcing by florists. The same sort planted in the open ground, seed sown the last of May, were in constant bloom until frost. This variety is one of the best for cutting, and like the famous sort, "Cut and Come Again," seems to enjoy being robbed of its bloom.

To have the best success with stocks and to enjoy their bloom through a long season, the seed should be sown from March to April in shallow boxes in the house. Seed should not be sown in the open ground in the North much before the middle or last of May, depending on the weather.

The plants from seed sown in the house should be transplanted when an inch high into other boxes, and if transplanted a second time before being finally set in the open ground, the plant will have a more compact habit. The soil used for transplanting-boxes should be moderately rich. It must be very fine, however, and is best when of a loamy character. In transplanting to the open ground, do the work when the soil is moist, soon after a shower. If this cannot be done, considerable care in watering must be taken until the young plants become well established.

Besides the varieties named, the several colors of the Dwarf Large Flowering class and the Giant Perfection class are the best for general culture.

The best effects with stocks are obtained by massing either in solid beds by themselves or as deep borders for other plants. When used for beds handsome effects may be obtained by the use of the named colors planted in rows ranging from the darkest sorts in the center to the white at the outer edge. In borders care must be used to select sorts uniform in habit of growth, being careful as well that the plants in the rear are taller than the stocks used for borders. The reverse of this plan would make an otherwise well-arranged bed a hideous affair. Stocks require some patience and care to grow them well, but they will surely repay you in beauty of bloom.

SIMPLE HOTBEDS.

It is taken for granted that the majority of the readers of this journal know how to construct hotbeds, if they already have not one on the grounds. The kitchen garden is, however, distinctively the garden for the family, and the wife and daughter will have more to do with it than the men folks, and hence there may be some conflict over the privileges of the "real" hotbeds in which the large quantities of plants for large areas are raised. But with a few shallow boxes, her warm kitchen and the sunny widow, mother may be independent of father and the boys and raise her own vegetables as well as flower plants. In making the boxes for the kitchen hotbeds, see that they are small enough to handle, when filled, without straining one's back. A good size is about fifteen to eighteen inches long and nine or ten inches wide; three inches is deep enough, and two inches will answer for many seeds. Have the soil moderately rich, but by all means have it fine.

After sowing the seed, the soil must be kept moist at all times, and when the young plants appear, give plenty of light, but avoid setting too close to the glass or the sun will burn the tender seedlings.

When the young plants are an inch or two high, transplant to other boxes of soil and give less heat, the object being to gradually harden the young plants so that they may be placed in the open ground at the proper time without being obliged to protect them at night.

Of course, even the miniature hotbeds described are not necessary except for cer-

taiu plants, like tomatoes, etc., and even then for the kitchen garden, where but few are needed, we would advise buying the plants if possible. By having the soil prepared early and selecting the warmest locations for the earliest sown seed, we may dispense with the hotbed in many cases and still have vegetables among the earliest.

PLANT NOTES.

Calla lilies may be treated in two ways during the summer, both of which have their adherents among florists as well as among amateurs. After the plant has done its winter work, cut the tops off to within an inch of the soil and lay the pot on its side in a shady spot where it will be wet only by the rains. In the fall (September) start the plant into full growth by giving it the usual can of water, food, etc. The other way is to take the plant from the pot, shake off the soil about the bulb and place in a dry place under cover. As soon as the top has dried down, separate it from the bulb and place the latter in a thoroughly dry place, allowing it to re-

Don't fail to include the following varieties in your list of geraniums to buy this spring. We have tested all of them, and you can rely on their being all that is claimed for them. Souvenir de Mirande, a profuse bloomer, a delicate single pink-white center, shaded to white. Mrs. E. G. Hill, a superb salmon, very large truss. Scarlet cloth, single large florets of a soft texture, but brilliant scarlet color. La Favorite, one of the best and most profuse blooming whitesorts, double. Beaute Poitevine, large, semi-double flowers of a beautiful salmon. Immense truss and a free bloomer.

* * *

For vases or tubs or boxes filled with plants grown from seed the following is a good selection: For the center or for tall plants we will need palms, pandanus or gravillia, which should be bought already of good size. For upright growing sorts of moderate height, we can raise from seed calendula, centaurea (white-leaved), heliotrope, and browallia. For trailing or drooping sorts, from seed raise alyssum, candytuft, lobelia gracilis, oxalis, pe-



DWARF SNOWFLAKE.

main until September, then pot in rich soil, and after the top is well through the soil, treat in the usual way. In our experience the result of the last method is to obtain earlier and more blossoms, but the plant is not, as a rule, so well furnished with foliage as under the first treatment.

* * *

Lovers of pansies must bear in mind that as a class the plants require good soil and an abundance of water. Partial shade is also necessary for their best success.

Our most complete success in many years was with plants from March-sown seed indoors, the plants when too thick being thinned out and placed in shallow boxes about four inches apart. Early in May these boxes were placed on the east side of the house, on the ground outdoors, where they had the sun until about ten o'clock.

Surrounding buildings shaded them the rest of the day. All summer long, except, of course, on rainy days, the plants were watered twice each day, morning and night.

The soil was one part well-rotted stable manure to three parts good garden loam. The blossoms were very large and were on the plants in great abundance from early June until severe frosts in the late fall.

tinia and nasturtium. This selection will make a good display at a moderate price and give an abundance of bloom from early summer until frost.

* * *

The improvements in asters have been as pronounced as in other plants. Here are a few we tested during the past season, and we can recommend to our readers with full confidence.

In the chrysanthemum-flowered class, which are dwarf, growing only about ten inches high, and bearing full double flowers in clusters, the porcelain color shaded to a white center is very fine. The shading is exquisitely delicate and the variety is a profuse bloomer.

The comet class are very desirable, resembling the Japanese chrysanthemum in their many twisted petals. The solid colors are most desirable, pink and white the best shades. "Queen of the Easter," the earliest of all varieties, is a valuable new sort, dwarf in habit and free blooming. The flowers are pure white and double. "Guess King" is a good variety for contrast with above; not early, but bears an abundance of blackish-purple flowers, globular in form.

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Our Sunday Afternoon.

"IF WE KNEW."

If we knew the present year
We should hail our Lord's return,
How the thought would soothe our anguish,
How our hearts with love would yearn.
All the burdens we must carry
Would be easier to bear
Could we know he would not tarry,
He, the fairest of the fair.

His most gracious word we know,
"Lo, I'm with you to the end!"
Gently as a nurse he careth,
And will all our ways defend.
Burdens shall no more oppress us
When our king his face reveals,
Neither fear nor care distress us
When the heart his presence feels.

This new year our last may be,
And for us our Lord may come;
Weeks and months so swiftly flying,
Bring us nearer heaven and home.
Let us then rejoice with gladness,
For our Lord's return draws nigh.
Jesus comes! then banish sadness,
"Quickly come!" our hearts do cry.

THE CIGARETTE VICE.

THE use of cigarettes is not merely the use of tobacco, it is a vice by itself. In reformatories where the cure of the opium, alcohol and cigarette habits is a business, cigarette patients are not restricted from smoking cigars or pipes, which are regarded as comparatively harmless. The cigarette works a special evil of its own, which tobacco in other forms does not effect. This evil result may be due to drugs, or to the paper wrappers, or to the fact that the smoke of cigarettes is almost always inhaled into the lungs, while cigar smoke is not. As to that, let the experts decide; about the fact of the effect there is no doubt, and no dearth of evidence. No other form of tobacco eats into the will as cigarettes do. The adult can carry off a good deal of poison of one kind or another without disaster, and his duties being fixed and his will formed, he is usually able to make his minor vices subservient to his more important obligations. And so it happens that it is a matter of constant observation in clubs, and wherever there are intelligent men who allow themselves all the creature indulgences that they dare, that these experienced persons are constantly "swearing off" cigarettes for longer or shorter periods, and smoking cigars instead. The cigarette fetter begins to gall, and they fling it off. But young boys do not do that. They have not discretion enough, for one thing, and for another, cigars cost too much for them, and cannot be smoked surreptitiously in a spare moment. It is the infernal cheapness of the cigarette and its adaptability for concealment that tempt this schoolboy's callow intelligence. --*Harper's Weekly*.

HUMILITY.

When I think of the immensity of the universe, I am filled with the sense of my own utter insignificance, and am ready to exclaim with David, "What is man that thou art mindful of him?" The freedom of the human will and the starry heavens are the two greatest marvels that come under our observation, and when I think of all the mighty worlds around us, to which ours is but a speck, I feel what poor little worms we are, and ask myself, what is greatness? I do not like such a word as *design* to be applied to the Creator of all these worlds; it makes him seem a mere artificer. A certain amount of anthropomorphism must, however, necessarily enter into our conception of God, because, though there may be infinitely higher beings than ourselves in the worlds beyond ours, yet to our conception man is the highest being. --*Tennyson*.

START WELL.

Much depends upon a cheerful start for the day. The man who leaves his home with a scowl on his brow, and a snap at his children, and a tart speech to his wife instead of a kiss, is not likely to be pleasant company for anybody during the day. He will probably come home with the temper of a porcupine. Wise plans should be laid for every day, so that it be not an idle saunter or an aimless bustling to and fro. Yet to make good speed on the right track, we must not start overloaded; not too many things to be undertaken, lest they prove hasty botchwork. The journey is not made in a cushioned car, but on foot, and the most galling load is vexations and worrying care. One step at a time is all that the most busy Christian can take, and steady

walking ought not to tire any healthy body or soul. It is the overstrained rush, whether in business or study, that breaks people down; especially the insane greed for wealth or the mad ambition, goading brains and nerves to a fury. The shattered nerves and sudden deaths in all our great business centers tell a sad story. A good rule is to take short views. Sufficient to the day is the toil thereof; no man is strong enough to bear to-day's load with the morrow piled on the top of it. The only long look far ahead that you and I should take should be the look toward the judgment seat, and the offered crown at the end of the race. That is the way to get a taste of heaven in advance. --*Rev. T. L. Cuyler*.

WORTH REMEMBERING.

"Faith is the sacrifice of the understanding to God; repentance the sacrifice of the will."

"A gift to the Lord is to be measured by its self-denial, not by its actual amount; or as one has happily put it, by what remains, not by what is given."

"When a man measures the Bible by himself, the book is sure to be wrong; but when he measures himself by the Bible, he is sure to be wrong."

"It is not talent, nor power, nor gifts that do the work of God, but it is that which lies within the grasp of the humblest; it is the simple, earnest life with Christ in God."

"Patience strengthens the spirit, sweetens the temper, stifles anger, extinguishes envy, subdues pride; she bridles the tongue, refrains the hand and tramples upon temptations."

"If I could go down to my grave and have it honestly written above it, He did what he could, I would rather have it than a monument of gold reaching to heaven. Do all the good you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can. --*Moody*.

THE FLAPPING OF A FLY'S WING.

Sir John Lubbock says: "The slow flapping of a butterfly's wing produces no sound; but when the movements are rapid, a noise is produced, which increases in shrillness with the number of vibrations. Thus, the house-fly, which produces the sound F, vibrates its wings 21,120 times a minute, or 335 times a second; and the bee, which makes the sound of A, as many as 26,400 times a minute, or 440 in a second. On the contrary, a tired bee hums on E, and therefore, according to theory, vibrates its wings only 330 times in a second."

Marcy, the naturalist, after many attempts, has succeeded by a delicate mechanism in confirming these numbers graphically. He fixed a fly so that the tip of the wing just touched a cylinder, which was moved by clockwork. Each stroke of the wing caused a mark, of course, very slight, but still very perceptible, and thus showed that there were actually 330 strokes in a second, agreeing almost exactly with the number of vibrations inferred from the note produced.

DO NOT RESIST GOD.

You perceive by the light of God, in the depth of conscience, what grace demands of you; but you resist him. Hence your distress. You begin to say within, "It is impossible for me to undertake to do what is required of me." This is a temptation to despair. Despair as much as you please of self, but never of God. He is all-good and all-powerful, and will grant you according to your faith. If you will believe all things, all things shall be yours, and you shall remove mountains. If you believe nothing, you shall have nothing, but you alone will be to blame. Look at Abraham, who hoped against every rational hope! Look at Mary, also, who, when the most incredible thing in the world was proposed to her, did not hesitate, but exclaimed, "Be it unto me according to thy word." Open then your heart. How can grace find room in so straitened a heart? All that you have to do is to rest in the teachable spirit of faith, and no longer listen to self, and those things which seemed the greatest difficulties will be inseparably smoothed away. --*Madam Guyon*.

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Queries.

READ THIS NOTICE.

Questions from regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, and relating to matters of general interest, will be answered in these columns free of charge. Querists desiring immediate replies, or asking information upon matters of personal interest only, should enclose stamps for return postage. The full name and post-office address of the inquirer should accompany each query in order that we may answer by mail if necessary. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Queries should not be written on paper containing matters of business, and should be written on one side of the paper only.

Celery—Cheese.—H. M. H., Farley, Kan. Send 30 cents to Tuisco Greiner, LaSalle, N. Y., for "Celery for Profit."—Send 25 cents to J. A. Monrad, Winnetka, Ill., for "A B C of Cheese-making."

Kicking Helper.—N. P., Carrier Springs, N. C. To break your helper from kicking, place her in the sole charge of some cool, level-headed person, who will treat her with uniform kindness and firmness. While being milked she should be securely fastened in a good stanchion.

Spoiled Eggs as Fertilizer.—R. C. I., West Union, Iowa, writes: "I live near a large cold storage, where thousands of dozens of eggs are stored. These are sorted before they are shipped, and a great many spoiled eggs are thrown out. Are these spoiled eggs of any value as a fertilizer? If so, how should they be scattered, and how thick should they be spread on corn and timothy land? How would they compare per barrel with good horse manure?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—If the value of the fertilizer could be measured by the bad smell of the article, spoiled eggs would undoubtedly head the list. I have no analysis of bad eggs at hand, but there can be no doubt that they would make a good fertilizer, rich in nitrogen. How to apply them is the question. I think I would compost the broken eggs with horse manure, dry muck or litter of any sort.

Fertilizer Queries.—P. B. S., Charles county, Md., writes: "Please tell me if equal parts of kainite and bone-meal mixed with sheep droppings are a complete guano for corn? If not, what should I add? Also, is not one fourth of a ton of muriate of potash equal to a ton of kainite? Which is the best way of using, dropping a handful in each hill or putting it in with a machine? The land is soil clay. Can guano men sell pure bone-meal for \$30 per ton? Is it not mixed with bone from sugar refineries? What does nitrogen generally sell for?"

REPLY BY JOSEPH:—Kainite mixed with bone-meal is a complete fertilizer; so are sheep droppings a complete fertilizer, and consequently the mixture of both would be. If you apply the mixture (which is good enough in itself) for corn in the hill, you should be careful not to put in too much kainite. Usually the safest way to apply kainite is in the fall. Muriate of potash has about fifty per cent of potash, kainite about twelve or thirteen per cent. Pure bone-meal usually costs about \$30 or \$32 per ton. The bone refuse of sugar refineries is bone black; pure bone-meal is ground raw bone. Nitrogen in available forms is worth from fourteen to sixteen cents per pound. Nitrate of soda, for instance, which contains about fifteen per cent of nitrogen, usually sells for \$45. You should read "Practical Farm Chemistry."

VETERINARY.

Conducted by Dr. H. J. Detmers. Professor of Veterinary Surgery in Ohio State University.

To regular subscribers of FARM AND FIRESIDE, answers will be given through these columns free of charge. Where an immediate reply by mail is desired, the applicant should inclose a fee of one dollar, otherwise no attention will be paid to such a request. Inquiries should always contain the writer's full address. Queries must be received at least two weeks before the date of the issue in which the answer is expected. Subscribers may send their veterinary queries directly to Dr. H. J. DETMERS, 1315 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

NOTE.—Parties who desire an answer to their inquiries in this column, must give their name and address, not necessarily for publication, but for other good reasons. Anonymous inquiries are not answered under any circumstances.

Mallein.—H. M. D., M. D., Pine City, N. Y. Mallein bears the same relation to glanders (*Malleus humidis*) as tuberculin to tuberculosis. The technique is the same.

A Fistule on the Hip.—E. C. R., Stratton, Neb. Such a fistule, if of three years' standing, can be cured only if a competent veterinarian administers and superintends the treatment.

Hogs Sweating.—C. O. K., Rock Grove, Ill. If you keep fifteen hogs together in one pen, and the hogs are sweating in cold weather, they very likely pile, hog fashion, on top of each other when going to sleep, and thus cause the sweating.

Injured Tendons.—H. M. G., Chetopa, Kan. As the case is an old one, the injury or straining happening over a year ago, there is no prospect of recovery unless a competent veterinarian can personally conduct or superintend the treatment, and even then the result may be unsatisfactory.

Probably Actinomycosis.—D. McD., Yankton, S. D. What you complain of may be actinomycosis. If the tooth had been removed in time, and if immediately antisepsics had been applied, the morbid process might have been stopped in its incipient stage. It is probably too late now to do anything. Consult your veterinarian again.

Chronic Diarrhea.—O. C. M., Coalton, Ohio. The chronic diarrhea you complain of, it seems, is due to a chronic intestinal catarrh and extreme old age. It therefore is not probable that a cure can be effected, or that any treatment will pay. If you are of a different opinion, and wish to spend some money, employ a veterinarian.

Slobbers.—G. L. D., Stoneburg, Tex., writes: "I have a three-year-old filly that slobbers profusely while eating. Often a teacupful of saliva is left in the feed-box where she eats. Please tell me what to do for her."

ANSWER:—It is probably nothing more serious than spoiled or moldy food, perhaps hay full of fungi. Change the food and feed nothing but what is sound and clean.

Cannot Swallow.—J. D., Forest City, Iowa. If your colt cannot swallow, there is probably paralysis—partial only, perhaps—of the tongue or of the pharynx, etc. The teeth are not at fault. Young colts always have sharp teeth and ought to have them. They should not have been filed, because smooth teeth cannot perform their functions, and are no better than a smooth millstone. To file teeth is indicated only if the teeth (of an old horse, for instance) are not regularly worn off, and thus have long, sharp and projecting points, which cut the gums or the tongue. Nothing can be done by way of treatment against paralysis.

So-called Bog-spavin.—A. S. W., Platte, Mich. What you complain of is a so-called bog-spavin, or an enlargement of the hock-joint. It does not cause any lameness. If you want to do something, you may make repeated applications of tincture of iodine, say once a day for a few weeks, but do not expect more than a reduction.

Ringworm.—R. H. O., New Vieuna, Ohio. What you describe is ringworm. A cure will be effected if you apply, once a day, either some tincture of iodine or a five-per-cent solution of creoline (Pearson) in water, or else a five-per-cent solution of carbolic acid, provided you thoroughly cleanse the stable, especially remove all bedding and rubbish, and take care that no new infection will take place. A creoline solution is probably preferable, because it is non-poisonous.

Bitter and Foaming Milk.—C. L. H., Wellington, Kan. Your cow is not to blame, and the feed you give—bran, ship-stuff, wild hay, and hay and straw mixed—is all right. The milk, after it has been drawn from the udder, is invaded by bacteria. It will therefore be necessary to disinfect the milking utensils, to clean and disinfect the stable and to keep the milk—temporarily, at least—at another place until the place where it usually is kept has undergone a thorough disinfection. All this would, perhaps, not be necessary if it were known when the bacteria invasion takes place; but as it is not, it will be safest to disinfect everything named, even the churn and the vessel in which the cream is kept.

Swelling in the Parotid Region.—J. A. H., Roanoke, W. Va., writes: "I have a mare that is swelled from the ears down to the throat. The swelling commenced about nine months ago. There is nothing else wrong with her, so far as I can tell. I have used liniments, but they did not reduce the swelling any."

ANSWER:—If the swelling is solid and somewhat nodular, and your mare a gray, it very likely is a melanotic tumor (melano-sarcoma) and nothing can be done, except leaving it alone. All irritating applications, liniments, etc., increase its growth. If it is fluctuating, it may possibly be due to a filling up of the air-sacs with purulent mucus, but in that case you would have noticed something else wrong with the animal. The same would be the case if the swelling is caused by an inflammation of the parotid gland. If your mare is not a gray, have the swelling examined by a competent veterinarian.

Thumps.—M. J. D., Adelaide, Cal., writes: "Is there a cure for my horse? He has the thumps whenever I work him. My son is plowing him. After he rests all day Sunday he does not have them Monday, but has them Tuesday and the rest of the week. He generally gets over them during the night, but sometimes has them as bad in the morning. What I mean by the thumps is that his sides keep thumping."

ANSWER:—I am not quite sure whether what you call "thumps" really is what is usually called so—that is, a visible and even audible thumping all over the body, but especially in the hind quarters, and synchronous with the beating of the heart—or whether what you call thumps is merely a severe case of heaves or chronic difficulty of breathing, and what you call thumping caused by the excessive contraction of the respiratory muscles at each breath. If the latter, it is incurable, and the horse is worthless, or nearly so. If the former, there is hope that it will permanently disappear, if the horse has rest for a sufficient length of time and if not overworked.

Cut by a Barbed Wire.—C. D. B., Grass Lake, Mich., writes: "I have a three-year-old colt that had his leg raked by a barbed wire, about three weeks ago. I have used salt and warm vinegar, with a little turpentine mixed, but it does not heal. There is a fungus puff of what I call proud flesh, about two inches square. What can I do to make it heal? It is on the hind leg, just below and in front of the knee-joint."

ANSWER:—Do not use any more irritating substances; they necessarily increase the inflammation, and thus prevent the healing. If you mean by "knee" the hock-joint, destroy the luxuriant granulation, or proud flesh, by one or two applications of finely-powdered sulphate of copper. This done, dress the wound twice a day with a mixture of iodine and tannic acid, equal parts, and a bunch of absorbent cotton, and then apply a bandage—bandaging to be commenced at the hoof. Renew dressing and bandage twice a day. If you mean the knee-joint, and if therefore the wound is above the hock, the bandaging may be dispensed with.

Breast-boil.—W. C. W., La Junta, Col. The swelling in front of the sternum of your horse, if it feels, as you say, "like a gathering when it is almost ready to open, but has not changed much since September 1st," very likely is a cystic tumor. If it is, there are two ways of removing it. One by peeling it out—a radical way, but requiring, especially at that place, an expert operator—and the other to open it and then to destroy the inner coat or lining by means of caustic. As it is impossible to give a definite opinion as to the real character of such a swelling without an examination, and expecting that no competent veterinarian will be available in your place, I advise you to ask your physician to explore the swelling with a fine trocar, or with an exploring needle or syringe, and then if it proves to be a cystic tumor, or perhaps after all an abscess, to split it open, and after the contents have been discharged, to fill the cavity with absorbent cotton saturated with a concentrated solution of sulphate of copper. Your physician will inform you concerning the further treatment.

Infectious Abortion.—F. B., Mill Creek, Utah. What you complain of is infectious abortion. First, remove all cows with calf which have not yet aborted and do not show any signs of it, to another place which has not been occupied by any of the cows that have aborted. Secondly, clean and disinfect the premises where the abortions have taken place, and do not have the same occupied by any cows with calf until the infection is complete and thorough. Third, wash the vulva and posterior part of the vagina, also the tails of the cows with calf once a week with a milk-warm solution of creoline (Pearson) in water (3 to 100). Fourth, if any further case of abortion takes place, burn the fetus and the afterbirth, inject into the uterus of the cow a one-per-cent milk-warm or blood-warm solution of creoline, and wash the tail and external genitalia of the animals once a day with a three-per-cent solution, until no more discharges take place. Fifth, the cows with calf, after having been separated and been removed to another place, must be fed, taken care of, etc., by persons who do not attend to the cattle left on the formerly occupied premises, so that even in that way an infection will be impossible.

Pleurisy Pains and all Asthmatic and Bronchial Affections.—Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant. Pleurisy Pains and all Asthmatic and Bronchial Affections are soon relieved by that certain remedy for Coughs and Colds, Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant.

A Tumor.—E. D., Gowen, Mich., writes: "I have a noble farm dog that has a bunch growing on his neck near his breast. I noticed it one year ago. It was then about the size of a hen's egg. It is now more than twice that size. It is hard, but loose. It is pressing on the windpipe, which causes a bad cough and difficult breathing."

ANSWER:—The tumor, if you desire to have it removed, must be excised, but as important and large blood-vessels and nerves—carotid artery, jugular vein and pneumogastric nerve—are in close proximity, it requires a competent surgeon to do it.

Strained Tendon.—R. A. K., Bois Blanc Island, Mich. The lameness you complain of is caused by overstrained flexor tendons, in consequence of too hard work or overexertion. If you had given the animal rest, and not constantly worked her, recovery would have taken place. Your liniments, ammonia, turpentine, etc., have caused the animal great pain, but have not done a particle of good. If you had promptly rested the animal and applied cold water as soon as the injury happened, there would have been no difficulty. It is too late now. If your mare does not eat well, it is partially on account of old age, partially on account of pain and exhaustion caused by her lameness, and partially, perhaps, on account of your condition powders. Good oats, sound hay and proper care are the only condition powders that are good.

Probably Choked and Killed by Dosing.—R. H., Platteville, Wis., writes: "Will you please state the cause of the death of my three-month's shoat. I had two shoats in a pen, and fed them three times daily on warmed skim-milk and scalded corn-meal, and at intervals shorts and bran and ear corn. They grew well and looked all right, until the boar pig refused to eat and had fits of coughing and vomiting. It seemed hard for it to cough anything up. I put some copperas in the milk, but it did not care to eat, so I mixed about a quarter of a teaspoonful in some warm milk and gave it to the pig; but it died a few hours afterward."

ANSWER:—It is possible that your pig got choked, perhaps on some foreign, sharp or pointed body contained in its food, which body, perhaps, became lodged in the chest portion of its esophagus, or perforated the same and caused the hemorrhage. Death, very likely, would have resulted under all circumstances, but undoubtedly was accelerated by dosing or drenching the pig with milk and sulphate of iron. Drenching a pig is exceedingly dangerous under all circumstances, no matter what the nature of the drench may be, for as soon as the pig squeals, it will go down into the lungs.

An Intestinal Fistule.—S. G. B., Galesburg, Kan., writes: "About three months ago I had a mare kicked on the ninth rib, about eight inches up from the lower part of the belly. She was kicked by a horse unshod. It swelled badly, and in about six weeks broke and discharged a little matter. About two weeks after I noticed particles of food passing out. The mare at first had a good appetite, but now refuses to eat, and is getting very weak and poor. Liquid continues to flow from the sore (which is about one fourth of an inch in diameter when not distended) nearly all the time. Is there anything I can do for her?"

ANSWER:—What you describe—an intestinal fistule, probably into the colon—is a rare but interesting case. Unfortunately, not much can be done. The fistulous opening possibly might be brought to a close by first cauterizing the opening, after the same has been thoroughly cleaned, either with nitrate of silver—if it is not too wide—or with a pointed, red-hot iron, and then by applying to the surrounding skin a good blister (oil of cantharides, for instance) that will cause sufficient swelling to effect a closing. But even if this should prove successful, the existing adhesion between the perforated intestine and the peritoneum, and very likely the extensive peritonitis, will render the animal worthless and are apt to cause its death.

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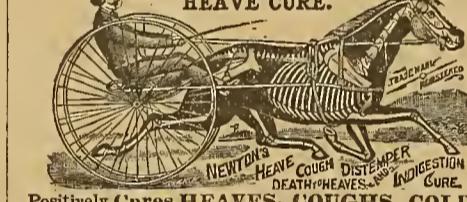
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WHEN the farm is once brought under a profitable system of management it is the most constant of business enterprises.

The "Western Trail" is published quarterly by the CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC RAILWAY. It tells how to get a farm in the West, and it will be sent to you gratis for one year. Send name and address to "Editor Western Trail, Chicago," and receive it one year free. JOHN SEBASTIAN, G. P. A.

THE SIMPLE LIFE OF SOME GEORGIA DWELLERS.

The mountaineer, with his covered wagon laden with apples and cabbages, is beginning to wend his way to our town, says the Toccoa News. He and his conveyance make a picturesque sight, but of this fact he is as ignorant as he is of the ways of fashionable society. Up among the spurs of the Blue Ridge, where the atmosphere is cool and bracing, where cool, clear springs burst boldly from the craggy hillsides and rush gaily seaward, and where nature presents some of her most charming phases, the mountaineer has built an unpretentious house. Though perhaps not fully appreciative of his surroundings, he loves the mountain and his humble and peaceful mode of life.

An ancient philosopher has said, "That man approaches nearest to perfect happiness who has fewest wants." Measured by this rule, the mountaineer is quite a happy individual. He desires no better house or furniture than he possesses. His little farm furnishes him an abundance of corn for bread and for "mountain-dew," rye, wheat, cabbage, etc., while chickens innumerable swarm around his cabin, and rosy-cheeked apples hang in profusion from the orchard trees. He is not ambitious, and he pines neither for wealth nor fame. The old-fashioned loom and spinning-wheel are in use in his household and furnishes the cloth used by him.

He needs a little money to pay taxes, and for some other purposes, occasionally. One of the easiest ways frequently for him to obtain cash is to convert some of his corn into a liquid form. He has no more compunctions of conscience in doing this than the housewife in making jam out of blackberries. When he does not resort to moonshining to make money, at this season of the year he loads a wagon with cabbage and apples, occasionally placing a jug of mountain-dew or a keg of applejack under his produce. He hitches his slow but sure oxen to the wagon, and starts to market, often twenty-five, thirty and even fifty miles distant. Time is not regarded as money by him, and if he is absent from home eight or ten days he cares not. He carries food for himself and cattle, and sleeps in his wagon, so his expense on the trip is nothing. When his produce has been disposed of he buys some salt, a little sugar, and that is about all. If his load brings him five dollars or ten dollars, he considers that all clear profit. A little later in the season he may be expected to return with chestnuts.

Thus for generations has lived among the grandest scenery of Georgia the mountaineer, in this primitive and simple way. Perhaps it was of such as he of whom the poet said, "Where ignorance is bliss 't were folly to be wise." The mountaineer is a unique character, but he doesn't know it.

FOR SANDY GROUND.

The new forage plant (*Lathyrus*) introduced recently from Germany has produced, according to the report of the Michigan Experiment Station, four tons of hay per acre on light sandy soil at one cutting. It affords excellent pasture, will stand the severest drought and extreme cold. Lasts fifty years without reseeding. For 25 cents we mail three packets of seed with our 1894 Seed and Plant Catalogue, containing full description of this plant, how to cultivate, etc. 100 pages. Vaughan's Seed Store, 26 Barclay St., New York; 88 State St., Chicago.

AN ANCIENT YANKEE NOTION.

We are indebted to Pompeii for the great industry of caned fruit. Years ago, when the excavations were just beginning, a party of Cincinnatians found in what had been the pantry of a house many jars of preserved figs. One was opened, and they were found to be fresh and good. Investigation showed that the figs had been put into the jars in a heated state, an aperture left for the steam to escape, and then sealed with wax. The hint was taken, and the next year fruit canning was introduced into the United States, the process being identical with that in vogue at Pompeii twenty centuries ago.—*American Druggist*.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 20 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.

SCHEME FOR AN OCEAN TROLLEY.

It is pretty well understood that the limit of speed in ocean steamers is about reached if the present models are adhered to, and that if there is to be any gain in swiftness it must be by the trial of a new form. The difficulty is to devise a vessel of which the structural strength shall be great enough to carry the massive engines requisite for increased speed, and at the same time to resist the force of the ocean storms. If the sea were calm there would be no difficulty in increasing the speed of the "ocean greyhounds," but with the tremendous force of the waves and storms it is not possible to do this with the present models. It is not impossible that the solution of the problem lies in the submarine ship, and that the passenger steamer of the future will go under water instead of across its surface. The advance made in the planning and working of submarine boats in the last ten years makes this seem not wholly impossible, as it must have looked once, and there is no doubt that the freedom from the effects of surface storms would allow a swiftness which could hardly be arrived at on the surface. It might also solve the question of sea sickness, as it is probable that submarine locomotion would be much smoother and less disturbing to the stomach than the present method of traveling. All that one can say, however, is that we shall see what we shall see.

Perhaps the steamer of the future will be operated on a trolley by means of a submarine cable. The advantage of this plan would be great, as it would overcome the necessity of carrying immense quantities of fuel and of keeping the vessel loaded down with enormous engines. All the delay and difficulty and expense of managing furnaces and engines on board ship would be done away with by the oceanic trolley system, and the ship could be made so much lighter that it would go whizzing across the ocean in a couple of days. Danger of accident could be brought to be no greater than it is at present by having a sufficient number of repair steamers on the route, which could keep the cables in repair, and in case of any accident to the trolley could bring the passenger boat into port, or put it again in connection with the cable.

There can be no question that the proper means of crossing the Atlantic quickly is by some system which will allow the motive power to be applied from the shore, either by a trolley or a cable. The limit of speed for ships that carry engines and fuel is certainly practically reached on the surface, and there are difficulties in the way of submarine navigation which it would be hard to conquer. The trolley system is capable of great extension, and we may yet live to go to Europe by its means.—*Boston Courier*.

We call attention to the advertisement of The Curtis Steel Roofing Co., Niles, Ohio, in this issue. They are guaranteeing to furnish the best steel roof, painted with one or two coats of Graphite Paint, as desired, and are selling their product direct to the consumer—an object to the farmer. If in need of roofing, they will gladly quote you prices on application.

HOW TO DRY WET SHOES.

When, without overshoes, you have been caught in a heavy rain-storm, perhaps you have known already what to do with your best kid boots, which have been thoroughly wet through, and which, if left to dry in the ordinary way, will be stiff, brittle and unlovely? If not, you will be glad to learn what I heard only recently, from one whose experience is of value.

First wipe off gently with a soft cloth all surface water and mud; then, while still wet, rub well with kerosene-oil, using for the purpose the furred side of canton flannel. Set them aside until partially dry, when a second treatment with oil is advisable. They may then be deposited in a conveniently warm place, where they will dry gradually and thoroughly. Before applying French kid dressing, give them a final rubbing with the flannel, still slightly dampened with kerosene, and your boots will be soft and flexible as new kid, and be very little affected by their bath in the rain.—*Harper's Bazaar*.

DETERIORATION OF VARIETIES.

Professor Bailey states that the varieties of the tomato scarcely remain distinct after a generation or two. He thinks that there is no vegetable which deteriorates so rapidly as this; they soon lose their distinguishing characteristics. He, however, naively remarks, "It is not certain that all this variation is chargeable to the running out of the variety."

Mr. Murray Hill—"I want you to come around to my house and look at my portrait, painted by my daughter. I tell you, Dauber, it's a perfect likeness. That girl is a second Rosa Bonheur."

N. B.—Mr. Murray Hill is not aware that Rosa Bonheur paints beasts exclusively.—*Texas Siftings*.

FORTUNE OR MISS-FORTUNE.

If you have no employment, or are being poorly paid for the work you are doing, then write to B. F. Johnson & Co., of Richmond, Va., and they will show you how to transform Miss-fortune into Madame-fortune. Try it.

STAFF IN THE ALHAMBRA.

There is a general impression that staff, the material so abundantly used for the rich-looking architectural works of the great exposition, is of French origin. But it appears to have been introduced into Europe by the Arabian Moors, and much beautiful work composed of this or kindred material is still extant in Spain. Some of the finest examples are to be found in that grand historic old Moorish fortress, the Alhambra, at Granada, which was finished and decorated about the year 1348. Washington Irving, in a note in his delightful volume, "The Alhambra," says:

"To an unpracticed eye the light relieves and fanciful arabesque which cover the walls of the Alhambra appear to have been sculptured by the hand, with a minute and patient labor, an inexhaustible variety of detail, yet a general uniformity and harmony of design truly astonishing; and this may especially be said of the vaults and cupolas, which are wrought like honeycombs or frostwork, with stalactites and pendants, which confound the beholder with the seeming intricacy of their patterns. The astonishment ceases, however, when it is discovered that this is all stucco-work; plates of plaster of Paris, cast in molds and skilfully joined so as to form patterns of every size and form. This mode of diapering walls with arabesques and stuccoing the vaults with grotto-work was invented in Damascus, but highly improved by the Moors in Morocco, to whom Saracenic architecture owes its most graceful and fanciful details."

WHAT THEY GOT.

When Artemus Ward died the press of England and America was filled with tributes to his memory. In New York a meeting of newspaper people was held, at which it was resolved that his memory should be perpetuated. The manner in which this was done was amusingly illustrated by a story told in *Harper's Magazine* some years ago. Whether or not the anecdote would be true, to-day we do not know.

A few summer's ago I passed a week's vacation at Waterford, Maine, and during my visit went to the village graveyard to view the final resting-place of Artemus Ward.

With some trouble I found the grave, there being nothing about the plain, white slab to distinguish it from any similar ones around. While thinking and wondering that no monument had ever been erected to the humorist, a countryman approached, to whom I said:

"My friend, can you tell me why it is that Artemus never has had a monument erected to his memory?"

"Well, stranger, I guess I know," was the reply. "You see, arter Artemus died three or four hundred printer fellers down in New York City got together and passed some beautiful resolutions, saying that Artemus should have a monument, and they would pay for it then and there; and then they took up a collection, which amounted to twenty dollars and sixty cents, so I'm told; and since then this town hain't seen either the monument or the money; but, stranger, we did get a copy of the resolutions!"

THE PNEUMATIC AGE.

This is rightly to be called, some say, the pneumatic age. This feature is most conspicuous in the pneumatic tires of bicycles, yet we also have wagons with pneumatic tires, which have cut down all records of speed of horses; we have elevators with air cushions, pneumatic tubes, pneumatic guns, pneumatic bells, and the latest is a pneumatic saddle, whose cushion of air diminishes for the rider the shocks of the most erratic steed. Soon between mankind and all the ills and ills of life the inventor may place a cushion of yielding air. It is well that, as civilization becomes more complex and the frets of life more numerous, so, too, there should be more appliances for diminishing friction and softening jars. "To him who wears a shoe," says the proverb, "the whole world is covered with leather." So may it be that, to our pneumatic age, shocks and frets will become as if they did not exist.

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ACUTE VISION OF BIRDS.

Birds have very acute vision, perhaps the most acute of any creature, and the sense is almost more widely diffused over the retina than is the case with man; consequently a bird can see sideways as well as objects in front of it. A bird sees—showing great uneasiness in consequence—a hawk long before it is visible to man; so, too, fowls and pigeons find minute scraps of food, distinguishing them from what appear to us exactly similar pieces of earth or gravel. Young chickens are also able to find their own food, knowing its position and how distant it is, as soon as they are hatched, whereas a child only very gradually learns either to see or to understand the distance of an object. Several birds—apparently the young of all those that nest on the ground—can see quite well directly they come out of the shell, but the young of birds that nest in trees or on rocks are born blind and have to be fed.—*Chamber's Journal*.

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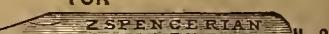
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Our Farm.

EXTRACTS
FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM GEORGIA.—My letter, which you published in the issue of December 1, 1893, brought me many letters of inquiry. Frequently the number reached eight a day; these came from Maine to Nebraska. In this letter I shall try to answer them all. I would not advise any one to come to this country now without some capital. Farm-hands get from \$8 to \$10 per month and rations, which consists of four pounds of bacon and one peck of meal for six days' work. White laborers are boarded. The laborers are principally negroes; they are also strong competitors in many of the trades, especially blacksmithing, carpentering and painting. This country needs farmers. Provisions and forage have a home market at good prices, and we have good shipping facilities to northern and eastern cities for fruits and vegetables. We are not subject to storms and tornadoes, or to severe droughts. The land is timbered with long-leaf yellow pine. The trees are not thick on the land, are long-bodied, with small top, and the roots generally go straight down. There is no undergrowth. Native grasses grow in the woods during summer, from one to one and one half feet high, and make splendid grazing, especially for six months, commencing with April. The cattle and sheep on ranges are never fed, only gotten up at marking and shearing time, when those that are to be sold are sorted out. The buyers drive them to the cities, where they are sold to the butchers. Not being fed in winter, stock becomes poor, but in May all are in good order. Some of the sheep on the range are never seen by the owners. All sheep are penned at certain times. The lambs are marked, the fleece is tied up and also marked. The owner pays for shearing and takes the fleece. Cattle and sheep have never been improved by crossing with improved breeds. The surface soil is sandy, intermixed with dark pebbles; the subsoil is clay. The mode of clearing the land is as follows: The timber is deadened by girdling, the trash is burned on the ground, and the land is fenced and plowed. To one not accustomed to it, it looks very slovenly, but I think it the better plan, as the trees are no more in the way than the stumps, and in a few years the sap rots and falls to the ground, and the dry heart can be split into rails, or buried much more readily than when green. These heart rails will last fifteen years. It costs here about \$1 per hundred to put rails into fence. I am building board fences. Fencing costs me \$5 per thousand feet at the saw-mill. I split my posts from dead heart timber. They cost me two and one half cents each. A man can dig, when the ground is wet, seventy holes in a day; when the ground is dry, the clay subsoil becomes very hard and one half the above amount would be a good day's work. We plant our corn in rows six feet apart, and from two to three feet apart in a row, one grain in a hill. At last plowing of corn we generally put in two rows of peas to every row of corn. The peas mature the same time the corn does. When the corn is gathered we gather what peas we require for seed, then turn in the hogs, and they fatten from the peas. We consider the pea crop worth as much as the corn. We have some varieties of peas that will lie on the ground all winter, and come up the summer following. We fertilize our corn and cotton; in fact, all crops should be fertilized. My corn crop of sixty acres yielded twenty bushels to the acre. I used two tons acid phosphate, worth \$16 per ton, composted with stable manure from four mules, and two hundred bushels of cotton-seed worth here fifteen cents a bushel. One of my neighbors for several years past has been raising fifty bushels of corn to the acre. From one hundred acres I got two thousand bushels of oats without using fertilizers. One of my neighbors this year got six hundred bushels of oats from twelve acres, using no fertilizers under the oats, but had oats on same land the year previous. After the oats were cut in June he planted peas; when peas were matured he put his hogs in to eat the peas, and in October plowed under the vines and sowed oats. This method is the best method for improving our land, as it costs nothing; the peas for the hogs pay for all the work. Hogs will live on the range, but do much better when they are fed. Some years I cut two crops of hay from same land, after cutting my oats. I fertilize the land for hay. Lumber, rosin, turpentine and cotton have been the main products of this country. From overproduction and scarcity of money, prices of cotton have declined in the past twenty years from thirty to seven cents a pound. Lumber and naval stores have also declined in price, but not as much. A few years ago fortunes were made in a few years in the lumber and the turpentine business when properly managed. But generally the operators enlarged their business, bought large tracts of land, and borrowed money, expecting the business to continue good. For the past year it has been almost impossible for them to get their papers renewed; since the financial crisis our banks have not been loaning money. The producers of cotton are in much the same fix. When cotton was twenty or fifteen cents a pound,

the planter had plenty of money, generally spent much of his time hunting and fishing, or perhaps lived in town, and had an overseer to look after the hands, and the overseer would also do the hunting and fishing. If the planter needed more money before the crop was made, he could readily get advances on cotton crops. Now this staple is below cost of production. They cannot readily change, as they are obliged to have advances made them to enable them to make a crop, and cotton is the only crop on which they can obtain it. Besides, to change requires an outlay of capital, they require different implements and machines for planting, cultivating and harvesting the crop. As a class, the southern cotton planters are sociable, fun-loving and generous to a fault. Wheat is grown but little this far south. When cotton was twenty cents a pound, no one would grow wheat; now there are no mills to grind it. There are plenty of mills to grind corn. Most of the vegetables grown North grow here, and many that cannot be grown there do well here. Cabbage and Irish potatoes do well, but will not keep, as they mature in the summer. When planted late, so as to mature in the fall, it is difficult to get a stand of plants. Building material is very cheap. Kiln-dried and dressed flooring and ceiling at mills are from \$5 to \$12 a thousand feet. The climate is so mild, it is not necessary for comfort to cell or plaster a house inside; very few farmers' houses are. Neither is expensive clothing required. In this county are a number of families from Ohio, that came here last winter. Some bought lands when they first came; others did not till this winter, as they wished to spend the summer and see crops, etc., before buying. All have remained. They say the heat is not as severe as in Ohio, as there is more breeze here, and the nights are cool. Sunstrokes are unknown here. We have no sand-flies or mosquitoes, except near water streams and ponds. There are two churches at Abbeville, Methodist and Baptist. The Presbyterians also have service there. The schools are not as good as in some of the northern states, but are gradually improving. There was no railroad in this county until seven years ago. Abbeville has about two thousand inhabitants. It is located on the Savannah, Americus and Montgomery railroad. It is the county-seat of Wilcox county. A new railroad is being built from Abbeville south toward Florida, eighteen miles of which is completed and in operation. The land not inclosed by fence is what we call the range for cattle, etc. It is free to all. One may own one thousand head of cattle, and not own an acre of land. Any one coming with a view of locating if pleased, will be shown the country by the citizens without expense of horse hire, etc. There are no real estate agents here, but there is plenty of land for sale, either cleared or in timber. Cleared land rents for \$2 an acre. The Southern Passenger Association has authorized the sale of land-seekers' excursion tickets February 8th, March 8th and April 9th at one limited first-class fare for round trip, from Ohio river cities to points in this state, good for twenty-five days from date of sale.

Abbeville, Ga. A. K. F.

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40° to 50°—Now and then.
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SHE HAS NEVER.

She paints dainty pictures on plates,
And embroiders for hours and hours,
Writes verses imploring the fates
To sprinkle ambition with showers.

She always is up with the lark,
And is seen with her cheeks rosy red,
Walking rapidly down through the park
With her nose pointed straightway ahead.

She lectures on mummies and things
That survived in the long ago hence;
She's a corker on solarized rings,
As a linguist she's counted immense.

Adroitly she pulls at an oar—
Can she act on the stage? Well, she can.
She has gained all her wants, and some more,
But she never has collared a man.

—*Providence Journal.*

SHOULD HAVE READ THE BIBLE CAREFULLY.

 BASHED at nothing, a commercial traveler in the South once propounded a question to a couple of clergymen, whom he encountered on a railroad train, which illustrates how easily a man may be tripped on a simple, little "catch" problem.

The drummer entered into a conversation with the ministers and entertained them amazingly with his brilliant conversation, touching men and affairs. Gradually the topics changed, until at last the talk was of Dr. Talmage and his visit to the Holy Land.

"Speaking of the Holy Land," said the graceless commercial man, "I was quite interested to read in a New York paper recently that a party of explorers in Palestine had discovered a huge heap of bones, which, from their size and quantity, are supposed to be of the children which Herod ordered killed. They were found in a cave, which had been closed for centuries, which accounts for their preservation."

"Indeed!" replied one of the clergymen, much interested. "I had not heard of it. It is certainly a surprising discovery."

"Yes," continued the drummer, "and oddly enough, while nearly half of the bones are bleached white, the rest were as black as ebony."

"Remarkable," ejaculated the clergyman who had already spoken, while the other looked at the drummer suspiciously.

"What is your theory?" he continued. "Do you think it possible that the bleached bones could be of males, and the black of females?"

"Possibly," replied the more communicative clergyman. "I am not an anatomist, however, and can't say what effects long exposure has on the bones of the sexes."

"And you," persisted the drummer to the other. "What is your opinion? Do you think it possible that the white bones belong to male infants and the black to female, or vice versa? That's the problem that now excites the discoverers."

"Really," replied the other, "I don't know, but possibly, as you first put it, the white bones may be of the male children, and the black of the female."

Shortly after this the clergymen reached their destination and left the train. Just as it was about moving off, the drummer, who had been chuckling to himself the meanwhile, thrust into the hand of one a card, upon which was written the words:

"Excuse me if I suggest that you read your Bibles hereafter with greater care. Had you done so in the past, you would have known that boy babies only were ordered slain by Herod."

SERIOUS DEFECT.

A hungry pedestrian had put up for the night at a wayside inn, and found the supper rather scanty, the most substantial part of it being a single sausage.

With a fault-finding look and a gesture he called the innkeeper to his side.

"Is that the best you can do in the way of a sausage?" asked the traveler.

"Why, now," said the host, "isn't it good?"

"Oh, it is good enough, perhaps, but the ends of it don't suit me."

"The ends! What's the matter with them?"

"Too near together," said the hungry man, and the innkeeper took the hint.

CALIFORNIA EXCURSIONS.

The well-known Phillips Excursion Company has arranged to run bi-weekly excursions to all principal California and other Pacific Coast cities, from all points on the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railway, via St. Louis, Kansas City and Denver.

The parties will be carried in Pullman Tourist cars leaving Parkersburg 2:00 A. M., Cincinnati 8:25 A. M., Thursday, January 25th, February 8th and 22d, March 8th and 22d, and passengers will be booked through to destination. There are no Pacific Coast tours offering so good accommodations at less expense.

For full information address A. Phillips & Co., S. E. Corner Fourth and Vine Streets, Cincinnati, Ohio, or call on nearest ticket agent of the B. & O. S. W. R'y.

A TECHNICALITY.

"How did Mistah Jackson come out wif 'is trouble wif de deacons?"

"Does you hab ref'rence to de trial dat de hen-house 'currente gave rise to?"

"Da's what I means."

"He's reinstated in memhahship, he is."

"Golly! I thought hit were a clah case."

"No' deedy. What dey charged 'im wid wus chickins, an' dey couldn't prove nuffin', but tub'keys." —*Washington Star.*

ETHEL'S EXCUSE FOR BEING GOOD.

Ethel used to play a good deal in the Sabbath-school class. One day she had been very quiet. She sat up prim and behaved herself so nicely, that after the recitation was over the teacher remarked:

"Ethel, my dear, you were a very good little girl to-day."

"Yes'm. I couldn't help being good. I got a tif neck!" —*Eli Perkins.*

ITS ANTIQUITY.

As the first of the pilgrims stepped upon the stern and rock-bound coast, a red man approached them.

"How?" exclaimed the aborigine.

The wayfarers, tossed by tempest, looked warily into each others' eyes.

"This," they observed, "must be that much-mooted Indian question."

After which they effected a landing.

IT WAS FULL OF THEM.

Shortly before Gen. B of Ohio, left to represent his country abroad, he sold most of his household belongings. Among them was a piano. A local music dealer went to see him about it.

"What kind of a piano is it, general?"

"Oh, it is a pretty fair piano."

"How many octaves has it?"

"Dunno, but it is full of 'em."

AN ADORNMENT.

Hoppers (in the ball-room)—"What in thunder is that paper Mrs. Riehley's got pinned on her dress?"

Mopps—"Well, you see Mrs. Richley's diamonds are so valuable she doesn't dare wear them in society, and so she wears that paper. It is an affidavit that she does have 'em." —*Chicago Record.*

ANOTHER KIND.

Mr. Meanitall—"I am jealous, Miss Foracloque."

Miss Foracloque—"You should not be, Mr. Meanitall. Jealously is a green-eyed monster."

Mr. Meanitall—"In this case it is wall-eyed pug dog!"

GENUINE REGRET.

"De Bilk is going to the dogs!"

"Awful sorry to hear it."

"Why? Is he a friend of yours?"

"No; but several of the dogs are."

COULDN'T KEEP THEM.

Sammy Shopley—"Do you keep eggs?"

Mr. Sanditt—"I do not. I sell them as fast as I can, so they'll be fresh."

BITS.

Maybe the trees turn red/because losing their summer dresses they haven't more just now in their trunks.—*Philadelphia Times.*

She—"What swell turnouts Maud's new beau always has."

He—"Yes, I have just found out about them—he gets \$3 a day for exercising the horses." —*Detroit Tribune.*

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ANTI-HIGHER CRITICISM, or the Testimony to the Infallibility of the Bible. \$1.50. Hunt & Eaton, New York. This is a symposium of certain addresses delivered at a conference held last August at Asbury Park, compiled and edited by L. W. Munhall. The list of essayists embraces men of the highest education and most honored positions. They are the finest collection of facts on the "other side of the question" yet published. It does not ridicule or abuse the higher criticism, but it meets it with hard facts. We heartily commend it to all who wish to have the evidence for and against the higher criticism, feeling sure that a perusal of the book will confirm and strengthen their faith in the Book of Books.

PRINCE SIDDARTHA, the Japanese Buddha, by John L. Atkinson. \$1.25. Congregational Sunday School and Publishing Society, Boston, Mass. This is a book giving the Japanese own account of their greatest god. In these days, when so much is said about Buddhism and the Oriental religions, this book will prove interesting and valuable, in showing how poor indeed is the light of Asia as compared with Jesus, the light of the world. We especially recommend it to young people, as giving them a true account of the greatest of the false religions.

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GREENHOUSE CONSTRUCTION. A complete manual on the building, heating, ventilating and arrangement of greenhouses, and the construction of hotbeds, frames and plant pits. By L. R. Taft, professor of horticulture and landscape gardening, Michigan agricultural college. Orange Judd Company, New York. 1894. 209 pp., illus., 12 mo., cloth, \$1.50.

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Pomona Nurseries. Strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, grapes, currants, gooseberries, etc. William Parry, Parry, N. J.

Wholesale price list for market gardeners and florists. "Blue List." W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

Complete list of seeds, plants, fruit and ornamental trees. The Storrs & Harrison Co., Painesville, Ohio.

Wholesale price list. Cleveland Nursery Co., Rio Vista, Va.

Annual catalogue of "True Blue" seeds. A specialty of tomatoes. A. W. Livingston's Sons, Columbus, Ohio.

Horticultural guide. Currie Bros., Milwaukee, Wis.

Lovett's Guide to Fruit Culture. J. T. Lovett Co., Little Silver, N. J.

Annual catalogue of Archias' Seed Store, Fayetteville, Ark., and Carthage, Mo.

Threshing machinery and engines, manufactured by the M. R. M. Co., La Porte, Ind.

Burpee's manual of thoroughbred live stock and fancy poultry. W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

Special catalogue of seeds, embracing some of the leading novelties, specialties and offers for 1894, made by W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

Catalogue of strawberry and other small fruit plants. Slaymaker & Son, Dover, Del.

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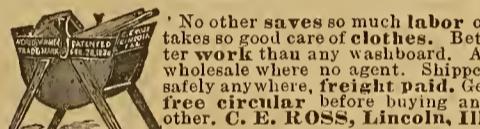


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INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS.

The Circulation of Farm and Fireside this Issue (March 15th) is

400,000 COPIES.

The statement of the past four months is as follows:

December 1,	500,000
" 15,	250,400
January 1,	300,200
" 15,	300,400
February 1,	400,000
" 15,	300,300
March 1,	300,500
" 15,	400,000
A total of	2,751,800
Average per issue,	343,975

Estimating at the usual average of five readers to each copy, Farm and Fireside has

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Topics of the Time.

DAIRYMEN'S POLITICS.

In no uncertain words does the editor of *Hoard's Dairymen* commend the work of an honest official, and denounce the fraudulent sale of imitation dairy products. "It did us good," he says, "to call on Dr. F. B. MeNeal, the energetic dairy and food commissioner of Ohio. It seemed refreshing to step into the office of a man who believes that it is his duty to stand by the people, consumers and farmers alike, as against the foul nest of frauds and adulterators who are conspiring to ruin the health of the one and business of the other. The Ohio commissioner has shown his honesty and ability in prosecuting food adulterators, for he brought down on himself, at the late election, the united hostility of the grocers' association. All the money that the oleo combine could use was put into the field to defeat him for re-election. But Democratic and Republican farmers alike vied with each other in standing by the man who was standing by them, and the result was that his majority was next to that given Governor McKinley.

"That is the kind of politics the *Dairymen* rejoices in and will advocate. When the dairy farmers learn to punish traitors, and stand by their friends, irrespective of party, in putting down this swindle of adulteration, in demanding the right kind of laws and their vigorous enforcement, then, and only then, will they show hard dairy sense, and be entitled to be called independent American citizens, who, knowing their rights dare defend them." * * * If people want to deal in the fraudulent stuff, let them do so without counterfeiting honest butter. That is fair and right. Now is the time to commence the agitation of this matter. The prosperity of oleomargarine means the death of the dairy interest, and it is high time for dairy farmers in every state to take this position and stand to it like men."

THE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH.

There is a rising clamor for the distribution of wealth. Hard times have intensified the feeling among certain classes that there should be an equal distribution of wealth. It is proposed to accomplish this by indirect methods of confiscation of property. These efforts to reform society and bring about the millennium are entirely misdirected. The millennium cannot be a millennium unless it is based on exact justice. Let the proposed distribution of wealth be measured by this standard.

Wealth may be, frequently is, dishonestly accumulated. The money or property recovered from a thief is restored to the owner and the thief is punished. If government confiscates wealth dishonestly accumulated, it should restore it to those from whom it has been taken. It has not the right, by the standard of exact justice, to make an equal distribution of stolen wealth among all the citizens, unless it was taken from all alike. It is an insult to an honest man to offer to him a share of stolen wealth.

Wealth may be, commonly is, honestly accumulated. If it is, government has no more right to take it from the possessor than it has to enslave men and use their labor. It has no more right to confiscate a million honestly earned than a dollar honestly earned.

The remedy for the evils growing out of the dishonest accumulation of wealth, and they are many, is not in its confiscation and equal distribution, but in its prevention. With the prevention of the dishonest accumulation of wealth there would be no occasion for the clamor for the distribution of wealth. The reformation should certainly be made at the right place. The present clamor is without due regard to justice, and can accomplish nothing good, but represents just so much wasted energy.

THE BLAND BILL.

The Bland silver seigniorage coinage bill, which passed the house and is now pending in the senate, reads as follows:

SECTION 1. That the secretary of the treasury shall immediately cause to be coined as fast as possible the silver bullion held in the treasury purchased under the act of July 14, 1890, entitled, "An act directing the purchase of silver bullion, and the issuing of treasury notes thereon and for other purposes," to the amount of the gain or seigniorage of such bullion, to wit: The sum of fifty-five million, one hundred and fifty-six thousand, six hundred and eighty-one dollars, and such coin and silver certificates issued thereon shall be used in the payment of public expenditures; and the secretary of the treasury may in his discretion, if the needs of the treasury demand it, issue silver certificates in excess of such coinage, provided that said excess shall not exceed the amount of the seigniorage as herein authorized to be coined.

SEC. 2. After the coinage provided for in the first section of this act, the remainder of the silver bullion purchased in pursuance of said act of July 14, 1890, shall be coined into legal tender standard silver dollars as fast as possible, and the coin shall be held in the treasury for the redemption of the treasury notes issued in the purchase of said bullion. That as fast as the bullion shall be coined for the redemption of said notes, the notes shall not be reissued, but shall be canceled and destroyed in amounts equal to the coin held at any time in the treasury derived from the coinage herein provided for, and silver certificates shall be issued on such coin in the manner now provided by law, provided that this act shall not be construed to change existing law relating to the legal tender character, or mode of redemption of the treasury

notes issued under said act of July 14, 1890. That a sufficient sum of money is hereby appropriated to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

Under the operation of the silver bullion purchasing act, the government bought silver and paid for it in treasury notes. The seigniorage, that is, the difference between the cost of the bullion at market rates and the face value of the standard dollars that could be coined from it, amounts to \$55,000,000. This bill provides for the coinage of this difference into standard silver dollars, and the issue of "silver certificates against them. But the bill goes much further than this. It also provides for the coinage of the whole mass of silver bullion in the treasury and for the issue and the gradual exchange of silver certificates for the treasury notes with which the silver bullion was purchased.

Since the market value of silver has depreciated, the bullion in the treasury is not worth to-day, by many millions of dollars, what the government paid for it. Therefore, the first section of this bill provides for inflation pure and simple.

The treasury notes issued under the act of 1890 for the purchase of silver bullion are practically redeemable in gold. The object of the second section of this bill is to substitute for them certificates redeemable in silver. This substitution is to be made when notes come into the treasury through the ordinary business transactions.

The bill is misnamed. It is a bill for the inflation of the currency, but it has brought the silver question to the front again, and we may look for a long struggle over it in the senate.

COST OF WHEAT GROWING.

In a recent number of the *American Agriculturist* J. R. Dodge, who was for many years statistician of the department of agriculture, says:

"If former statements of wheat growers are correct, much of the last crop was grown at a loss. The export price for the last fiscal year was a fraction less than eighty cents, the average farm price being only sixty-two cents, while the average price in Nebraska was only fifty cents, in South Dakota fifty-one, North Dakota fifty-two at the nearest railway, and at points remote from market scarcely forty or forty-five cents. It is not long since the growers in these districts declared that the crop would not pay the expense of cultivation at less than sixty cents. As the yield of this region was not much more than twelve bushels an acre, the gross proceeds were only about six dollars an acre. What sort of cultivation would this pay for, defray the expense of threshing and delivery, and meet the interest on the investment, to say nothing of profit?" * * * In conclusion he says: "The exclusive wheat belt is receding. It is well that it is. Long since miscellaneous agriculture and horticulture took the place of exclusive wheat in western New York. Twenty-five years ago one could scarcely find butter enough in eastern Minnesota to grease a griddle, while the autumn nights were lighted with bonfires of thousands of tons of wheat straw, where now diversified production and plenty rule. Now there are counties in South Dakota where such a change has already been effected. Perhaps low prices will prove a godsend to western agriculture, by driving exclusive wheat culture out of existence. Let wheat have a place in rotation, with twenty to thirty bushels to an acre as a yield, but

put labor to a better use than swelling a surplus product to the depression of prices. There is no need of growing wheat at a loss, where other products are demanded at fair prices, and it is unwise to persist in competing with half-price labor in Russia and the few-cents-per-day competition in India. It is perversity that nothing but hard times can cure. There is a conservatism that resents advice to quit unprofitable culture as impertinent interference with one's right to do a foolish thing. If anything will cure the wheat craze, the present prices ought to suffice."

CO-OPERATION.

In an article in the February number of *The Altruistic Review* Dr. Dodds outlines a scheme of co-operation as follows: "By the possibilities of right co-operation I mean nothing more nor less than this: That an organization be effected which shall have proper backing and be under the control of thoroughly honest management, which shall supply to its members certain lines of goods (not everything, for much is impracticable, and we would not do away with the middleman entirely) at an actual advance of, say, from five to ten per cent. Let those who go into this organization pay a stipulated fee each year, or once every three years, as they do in insurance. This fee will go toward the payment of salaries, for advertising and for the printing of catalogues. These catalogues should be issued annually, and should as nearly as possible quote both the regular retail price and the price to members. They should contain printed instructions so complete and yet so simple that a child could have no excuse for making a mistake in ordering goods. Such an organization would require a head office under efficient management, with a number of typewriters to copy orders and forward them to the different factories. In most instances the manufacturers themselves would ship the goods direct. In some cases 'mixed' orders would come in, and for such a shipping-room (not a warehouse) would be necessary. The saving by such a simple arrangement is self-evident. On many articles it would run from twenty to forty per cent. * * * It should be the duty and avowed purpose of such an organization to break down speculation in wheat, pork, cotton, etc., and further, to act not only as the purchasing agent for its members, but to act as the selling agent as well. * * * Such a movement would, of course, be strenuously opposed by all dealers and many manufacturers, but properly managed and based upon strictly honest business principles, such an organization could be made of untold advantage to all farmers and workmen, saving in the aggregate thousands upon thousands of dollars. The bases already exist for large usefulness in this line, but there would be the distrust which is the natural outgrowth of former companies which valued dollars above principles."

An organization similar to the one here described was incorporated under the laws of Illinois last June. Its operations will be watched with interest. The keystone of the scheme is *cash*. There seems to be no good reason why such organizations cannot become as safe and beneficial as building and loan associations, which are practically co-operative banks. Good, honest business management is as necessary for the latter as the former. It is not difficult to find it for the one; why should it be for the other?

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Under Its Own Colors. The Iden bill, prohibiting oleo from being colored in imitation of butter, passed the Ohio senate. In all probability it will pass the house and become a law. Producers of genuine dairy products and consumers of both genuine and imitation products will commend legislation that makes butter substitutes sell under their true colors.

Ohio Dairymen's Association. At a conference of Ohio dairymen, held in Columbus, January 11th, a state organization was organized with the following officers: President, J. P. Bradbury, Pomeroy; vice-president, Prof. T. F. Hunt, Columbus; secretary, L. P. Bailey, Tacoma; treasurer, B. B. Herrick, Wellington; executive committee, H. Dubois, Vigo, A. B. Thompson, Delta, E. F. Smith, Columbus, J. R. Hunt, Columbus, and F. M. Wilson, Selma. Under the plan of organization delegates from this association will attend the meetings of the National Dairy Congress. An account of the latter was published in our March 1st number.

Second-Crop Seed Potatoes. During the past decade the practice of growing two crops of potatoes in one season on the same ground has been largely increased in Kentucky, Tennessee and some other southern states. The second planting is done in midsummer, immediately after the first crop has been dug. This second crop grows until the vines are killed by frost. It consists mainly of medium to small potatoes that are immature. Those of marketable size, usually about one half the crop, find ready sale in the southern markets. The rest are saved for seed. Second-crop seed potatoes have given wonderful results, and the raising of the second crop for this purpose is now an established business. The principal merits claimed for second-crop seed are that the potatoes keep in a cool cellar without sprouting, shriveling, or losing their vigor; that they never send up but one sprout, whether planted whole or cut to small pieces; that the yield from them is large, with all the tubers of full marketable size, and that the crop is earlier. The superiority of these immature, second-crop potatoes for seed over well-ripened potatoes is so marked that they are used for the July planting as well as the spring planting. For a fall crop

of mature, marketable potatoes southern growers plant this seed early in July. For seed potatoes they plant later, so that the first hard frost will check the growth when the tubers are one half or two thirds grown. Northern growers should thoroughly test this second-crop potato seed, particularly for their early crop.

Subirrigation. Under this heading

something of special interest in "Garden Gossip" in this number. We wish to call attention here to the fact that there are many tracts of land, varying in size from a few square rods to many acres, that can be prepared at small expense for intensive gardening. These lands are a special kind. There are certain conditions that make them susceptible to the improvement in mind. Usually they are loam or muck soils, swampy or entirely covered with water, underlaid with gravel and located so that they can be drained. The main improvement consists in draining them in such a way that the water level is lowered to the necessary depth below the surface, say four or five feet, to fit them for cultivation. With this preparation these tracts of land become gardens over reservoirs of water. In droughts the growing crops are irrigated by subsoil water raised by capillary attraction. All that is necessary during dry weather is to keep the cultivator going and the surface soil well stirred. The irrigation is regulated automatically by the condition of the weather. The drier it is, the greater the capillary attraction, and the growing crop never suffers from lack of necessary moisture. In rainy weather the drainage provides for the quick removal of surplus water. This is natural subirrigation, and beats any system of artificial irrigation ever devised. The gardener who has such a tract of land has a bonanza, needing only intelligent development to make it bring him the largest possible returns.

NOTES ON RURAL AFFAIRS.
THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS.

At various times I have been criticising the stations and their doings. They are public institutions, maintained by money out of the national treasury, except the one at Geneva, N. Y., which is supported by the state. It is the privilege and the duty of the sovereign people to watch their servants, and hold them to their task. Without a watchful eye upon them, misuses and neglect of duty would soon creep in. The public, as a rule, are far too lenient and far too ready to overlook mismanagement and bad practices in public offices, simply because what is everybody's business is nobody's business. And people, it seems, are not served any better or governed any better than they deserve to be.

The first question is: Do the stations serve us well? Some do and some, it seems, do not. I confess I have never been oversanguine about the experiment station work, being well aware that there are not men enough in the country to equip fifty stations at the pay offered, men who combine the abilities of the investigator with practical training, who understand the needs of the average soil-tiller, and know how to bring the results of their investigations before the public in such a way that the people will have some benefit from it. The station staff often consists largely of young men with a little laboratory experience and very little practical training, and, of course, none of the riper judgment that comes with age. I do not blame the stations or the station officers for this, but the whole system, which is radically wrong and untenable; indeed, I believe without a parallel in the list of public institutions. The authority that furnishes the money for their maintenance has no control over their actions. The money may be expended properly, or it may be wasted; the work may be done to suit the public, or it may not; yet the general government has no choice, but must pay. Each station being left to work out its own salvation, goes about it independently from all the rest, and the consequence is we have scattered efforts, useless repetitions and sad omissions. The farmers of this country have been led to believe that the establishment of these stations was a great concession to them (as undoubtedly it was); that the stations belong to them, are under their protection, and that nobody should say aught against these institutions. I know it requires courage to criticise them, and still more to ask for a change in their relations. Whatever

may be thought or said of Secretary Morton, common sense should teach us that he is right when suggesting that the department should be given some chance to control, direct or advise the stations and station management. Such a change would give us a greater concentration of effort, a better division of labors and lines of action, and do away with many of the present loose methods, useless repetitions, etc.

Heretofore the stations have had a good and proper excuse when explaining the meager results of their investigations thus far brought out; namely, that it takes time—a great deal of time—to accomplish something of real value.

Dr. Peter Collier, in his address before the Western New York Horticultural Society last January, reiterated this claim, so often heard before. The public will concede the point, but it seems that there should be a limit to the time required to show what is being done; and the New York state agricultural experiment station at Geneva has been in existence too long to put us off much longer with promises of glorious things to be achieved in the indefinite future.

That the stations are doing some work cannot be denied. The bulletins show it, and by their bulletins they must be judged. I have a stack of them right before me, bulletins of a large number of the various stations. What a lot of labor and study and paper they represent! And, with the exception of the bulletins of the smaller number of stations, what a lot of worthless literature they are so far as the average farmer's needs are concerned. What good things there are in them are hidden among a lot of figures and tables and meaningless sentences. Very few of these bulletins are of any value to the average farmer. The lessons contained in them are seldom pointed or clear enough, and for this reason they are usually lost. What a waste of paper and printing ink! It seems to solve the problem how to accomplish the least good with the greatest outlay.

The department of agriculture once started out to find a remedy in its farmers' bulletins, station record, etc. But the department itself labors under the same difficulty. Of the thousands upon thousands of volumes of reports sent out promiscuously through the country, many are never looked at, the majority are just glanced through and thrown aside, or put upon the shelf to add to the farmer's library, and not one in a hundred is ever read through with interest and attention. Again, what a waste of paper and ink!

These bulletins and reports, etc., contain lessons, and often valuable ones, lessons which could easily be impressed upon the farmer with telling effect; but in order to do this they should be presented in a different way from what they usually are. They should be condensed and presented in plain, popular language, sharply and pointedly. If instead of a year's series of bulletins, to the number of a dozen or twenty, the stations will send out one small bulletin of clear meats, leaving out everything not essential, the farmer will read and learn and be benefited.

Some of the stations give a summary of points brought out in their bulletins. It is a good thing. The North Carolina station has now adopted the plan of having a popular summary of the contents of every bulletin to occupy the first eight pages of the bulletin. "This," the station says, "will be complete in itself, and gives to the popular reader about all he would desire to learn from the experiments described. These eight pages only are sent to the general publication list in the state. The complete bulletin is sent as usual to all scientific exchanges, newspapers, experiment station officers, boards of control, etc. The advantages of this plan are that it supplies the farmers only what they particularly and most generally wish to know, and also prevents any wasteful distribution of many pages to those who either do not have the time to study, or do not have the inclination or the ability to investigate the matters described in detail in them."

Here is an innovation of true merit, and the other stations and the department, too, will do well to follow suit. The great trouble, however, is that editorial talent seems to be a rather rare thing with station and department employees.

The Ohio station, as already stated on an earlier occasion, has found another way to make itself of service to the public; namely, by its newspaper bulletins. These are short articles in which the les-

sons of the bulletins are pointed out in popular language. They are sent to the various agricultural papers for publication.

RASPBERRIES FOR EVAPORATING.

A most interesting and valuable bulletin, and one which is certainly worth sending out in its present (unabbreviated) form, comes from the station which gives us so many other good ones every year, the Cornell University experiment station, of Ithaca, N. Y.

It is bulletin No. 57, on raspberries and blackberries. Growing and evaporating blackcaps is an important farm industry in many sections of New York state. Farmers usually find it more profitable than raising grain or hay. The bulletin gives information on planting, pruning, harvesting, drying, yield, profits, etc. Every farmer in the state, or any other state, who is interested in raspberry growing should have a copy of it. Most of the growers still have their berries picked by hand. Mr. Fred W. Card, the writer of the bulletin, recommends the use of the berry-harvester, a simple affair, consisting of a canvas tray some three feet square, there being only enough wood about it to form a framework and enable it to be moved about. Under the corner which rests on the ground there is a sort of shoe of wood, enabling it to be slid along from bush to bush easily. In one hand the operator carries a large wire hook with which the bushes are drawn over the canvas, or lifted up if too low down and in the way. In the other hand is a bat resembling a lawn-tennis racquet, with which he knocks off the ripe berries. This is merely a canvas-covered loop of heavy wire fastened in a convenient handle. The berries are allowed to become pretty ripe, and the plantation is gone over but two or three times in a season. The dried berries have to be run through a fanning-mill to free them from leaves, etc., and then picked over by hand before being put upon the market. The cost of gathering and cleaning in this way is estimated at one cent a quart, against two cents per quart being paid for gathering the berries by hand.

In the following I give a recapitulation of the points found in this bulletin:

(1.) Black raspberries can be made a profitable farm crop when grown for evaporating purposes and gathered by the aid of the berry-harvester, regardless of proximity to market. An average yield with good culture is about seventy-five to eighty bushels per acre.

(2.) An average yield of red raspberries is about seventy bushels per acre. An average yield of blackberries is about one hundred bushels per acre.

(3.) A majority of growers find low summer pinching of blackberries best for most varieties.

(4.) Growers are equally divided in opinion as to whether red raspberries should be pinched back at all in summer. If pinched, it should be done low and early. The canes should be made to branch low.

(5.) Evaporating red raspberries has not yet been found profitable.

(6.) There seems to be no immediate prospect that blackberries can be grown profitably for evaporating purposes.

(7.) Berry canes which made their entire growth after July 6th stood the winter as well as those which grew during the whole season, or better.

(8.) Removing all young canes from a plantation bearing its last crop of fruit materially increased the yield.

(9.) Raspberries and blackberries can be successfully grown under glass, but require artificial pollination and a comparatively high temperature.

(10.) Under ordinary conditions, thinning fruit of raspberries and blackberries, other than done by the spring pruning, does not pay.

(11.) Cutting off the bearing canes early in the spring does not induce autumn fruiting of the raspberry.

(12.) Frequent spraying with water throughout the blossoming period did not interfere with pollination and subsequent fruit production.

(13.) The only remedy for red rust is to dig up and burn at once every plant found to be affected. Cut away and burn all canes affected with anthracnose pits, and spray the plantation with Bordeaux mixture. Root-galls weaken the plants, causing them to appear as if suffering from poor soil. Removing the plants and burning the roots is the only remedy.

T. GREINER.

Our Farm.

A FEW POINTS ABOUT POTATO GROWING.

LAST summer I wrote about potato culture, proposing before planting-time to notice some points then necessarily omitted. The interest in this crop grows as the price of wheat, cattle and wool decrease, and I cannot but think that there is danger that many farmers may make the mistake of trying to compete with regular growers when their soil is not fitted to produce a paying crop, and at only fair prices they may lose money. I trust that nothing I have said or may say may lead any one to drop usual crops and go extensively into potato culture until he is very sure that his soil is adapted to the crop. I write especially for those who have already decided to grow a few acres, and who may still lack some of the facts that experience would give them. Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well, and all who incur the expense of planting, tilling and harvesting a field of potatoes should make reasonably certain of getting the best possible yield.

I know of no plant that responds to extra culture in such degree as the potato. It is quite true that it does not pay to neglect any crop, but especially foolish is the man who plants potatoes unless he is willing and able to give them tillage when needed. This may be more true of latitudes south of New England and northern Michigan than in those sections, as the potato delights in a cool climate, and what we lack in favoring climate south of the best potato belt we must make up in tillage. Much heat is hard upon potatoes, and drought affects the growth of the tubers in the ground far quicker than it does corn or wheat or hay. We counteract the effects of lack of rainfall in warm sections of the country by giving such tillage that moisture is retained in the ground, and we especially have to fight all weed growth, as weeds are great pumps for extracting moisture from the soil. So much for the absolute necessity of good tillage.

For the main crop of potatoes, seed from more northern latitudes gives the best results. The tubers are usually larger and more vigorous, and in cutting, each eye has more meat to feed it when putting forth a sprout. Northern potatoes do not sprout so quickly in the early spring, and all seed is better if it can be kept unsprouted until placed in the ground. But I have two cautions with reference to seed from a distance:

1. There is always difficulty in getting a variety true to name. The productivity of varieties of potatoes varies much, and one may order a favorite variety and get something radically different. This rarely happens in ordering from seedsmen, but seedsmen ask a price so much higher than the market one that while a farmer may be willing to order a few bushels, he rarely feels able to get a sufficient amount for extensive field planting. The usual way is to order from a commission merchant, or buy from a home merchant, and it is not possible to recognize many varieties by the appearance, owing to variations produced by soil and climate and the remarkable similarity of scores of varieties. In one instance I know of heavy loss to a grower from planting a couple of hundred bushels of seed that was sent under a name that did not belong to it. In fact, commission men know little of varieties. They class all varieties under three or four popular heads, according to general shape and color.

2. Potatoes are easily damaged by heat or frost while stored in cellars, and one may injure his chance for another crop by unwittingly planting damaged seed. Heated seed is especially to be feared, as one can hardly detect the injury until the spindling vines, or total absence of vines, tell him of the mistake he has made in his planting. If the sprouts and small potatoes that grew in the piles of potatoes have been carefully screened out before the lot is shipped to the grower, he is at the mercy of the shipper. Much frost causes potatoes to soften and rot after being exposed to heat, but a slight frost damages the eye and causes dark streaks under the skin, while otherwise the tuber appears sound. I assure the beginner that nothing is more disheartening than heated or slightly frosted seed potatoes. No extra culture can undo the mischief. If I seem to emphasize this point too much, it is only because I am amazed every year at the carelessness of some about the condi-

tion of the seed used, although a poor stand of plants always rewards their efforts.

Although northern potatoes are best for the main planting, there is another class of seed potatoes that is excellent for early planting. In the South two crops of potatoes are often raised in the same year. The seed for the second planting is taken from the first crop, and the second crop is harvested when frost comes. This second crop often consists of rather small tubers, and they make the best early seed that we can obtain. They are barreled by the growers, and can be had of southern commission merchants. Those that are sent North are quite inferior in size and impress one as being unfit for seed. Many of the tubers are much smaller than a hulled walnut, and a beginner is inclined to throw them to the pigs and pocket his loss. But the fact is that these little tubers are full of vitality, often send out only a single sprout, and the vines are rank growers. They do not set very freely, and the new tubers are ready for market sooner than those grown from any northern seed. As there is often only one stock in a hill, the rows need not be over thirty inches apart, and the hills in rich soil should be about fourteen or fifteen inches apart. If one has a home market for his crop and earliness is a desirable thing, I venture the assurance that if he will try this second-crop seed of any early variety he will have cause to thank the FARM AND FIRESIDE for the suggestion.

It is a difficult matter to advise in regard to varieties. Some do well in one kind of a soil and fail in another. There are a few general rules, however, to be observed. The general market usually wants a long potato of the Early Rose, White Star or Burbank type. In one city all long, white potatoes are called Burbank; in another they are Stars, all depending upon the reputation of those two varieties in the city. The point for the grower is this: The blue potato, or the red one, or the rough netter round one is not the one most wanted. Unless I had a home market for the crop, I would never plant any potatoes of the Blue Victor or Dakota Red types, as I would have to accept a cut on the market price when disposing of them. It is always best to grow what the public wants. This thing of undertaking to educate the public may do very well in a small village market, but it is an utter failure in large towns and cities.

A round potato is often a better yielder than a long one on thin land. If it is bright and thin-skinned, it will sell very well even in fastidious markets. The Early Hebron is a potato of this type. It is a very satisfactory potato. The Late Hebron is too rough and dark, but is a big yielder. For quality nothing surpasses the Early Ohio. The Rural New-Yorker No. 2 has a vigorous vine and is satisfactory with many. A score of good round potatoes might be mentioned, but when the soil is good and the crop goes to city markets, the long white or pink-tinted varieties are preferable. Of these there are many good ones, some adapted to one locality and some to another. The grower should experiment with standard varieties that are new to him, seeking the one best suited to his soil.

The chief points that a grower should consider at this time are, (1) a good soil, (2) a good seed-bed, (3) a good variety of potato, and (4) a perfect stand of vigorous plants.

DAVID.

PERSIAN FAT-TAILED SHEEP.

Mr. C. P. Bailey, of California, the largest breeder and importer of Angora goats in this country, in connection with a grand exhibit of goats, showed ten head of Persian fat-tailed sheep at the world's fair. About three years ago a small flock of these singular sheep were presented to the United States department of agriculture, to be placed under favorable conditions for acclimation as an experiment. The late Jeremiah M. Rusk, secretary of agriculture, after due consideration, sent them to Mr. Bailey, believing the surroundings would correspond with their native habits so nearly that they would do well. The selection proves to be a fortunate one, as the sheep not only maintained themselves in good health, but increased in numbers very rapidly. They appear to be as hardy as Spanish goats, which they resemble in several respects.

The color of these specimens of the breed was entirely nondescript, since they had various shades, though mainly black and white, without any uniformity among the different individuals. They were of good

size, and appear to be quite as domestic as any other breed of sheep known to us. Their ears were large, and hung down alongside of their faces quite like the Angora goats.

They were without horns; their wool was coarse and hairy and wholly without attractiveness as we esteem wool in this country. Their heads were large and well placed on strong necks that gently sloped to the shoulders in the most approved pattern of modern standards. The carcasses were uniform in type, with straight backs and underlines. The legs were strong and straight, set well apart. The fore quarters were light, while the hind quarters presented the most ludicrous appearance, owing to the curious accumulation of fat.

This exhibit attracted much attention from visitors who for the first time enjoyed the opportunity of looking up this oriental breed of sheep that has come down from patriarchal times without any change of type, form or color. Persia has not kept pace with the world in progress and improvements. The shepherds still follow the wandering life of their ancestors three thousand years ago. Their sheep constitute a large part of their wealth. What they are to-day they have been from time immemorial.

It is interesting to know that Mr. Bailey is of the opinion that the Persian sheep will be more than a curiosity, a real acquisition to the mutton-producing sheep of this country, whether the fleeces afford a profit or not. In their native country these sheep are very prolific, and do not seem less so in this country. It is probable that Mr. Bailey will continue to breed them pure and distinct, but it would be interesting to know how they would cross with other breeds. In due time, no doubt, Mr. Bailey will make an official report to the government of this curious and interesting experiment of acclimating this breed of sheep in this country. In the meantime, it is safe to conclude that this experiment is in the best of hands and is being conducted in such a way and under surroundings that will produce the best and most satisfactory results.

R. M. BELL.

CARE OF FARROWING SOWS.

A sow that is bred in autumn should be fed liberally during the winter a well-balanced ration, instead of being kept on an exclusive corn diet. She should be fed some corn, especially in cold weather, as this is one of the best foods for keeping up the animal heat. She should not be allowed to become too fat, and she will not if given proper food in reasonable quantities. Daily exercise is of the utmost importance. This advice is rather late to be acted upon now; but it will keep.

As farrowing-time approaches she should be separated from the hogs, and placed in a dry, sheltered place, and be given a small quantity of short hay or straw for bedding. I used to put up the regulation fender about six or eight inches from the wall, and the same distance above the floor, to keep the sow from lying on the pigs, but I noticed that pigs would often be crowded against the fender and injured, so it was abandoned. If a proper amount of bedding is given there is little to be feared.

Her food at this time should consist for the most part of loosening slops, as costiveness and consequent feverishness must be carefully guarded against.

When the critical time arrives, I believe it is best to leave her severely alone, and let nature have her course. If the treatment thus far has been correct, the chances are a thousand to one that both she and her offspring will do well without any disturbance or fussing on the part of the attendant, unless it be found that his services are absolutely necessary.

The sow is apt to be feverish at farrowing-time, and should have access to plenty of pure, fresh water. But she should have no food until she appears hungry, and then only a few handfuls of bran and middlings stirred in a half pailful of warm water. Do not tempt her to eat, and be in no hurry to crowd her with food; for the first few days the pigs require but little for their sustenance. Generally the tendency is to crowd her too much at the beginning, and then stint her when the pigs are started and when they should be fed liberally.

After the first week the ration should be gradually increased, and by the time the pigs begin to eat she should be brought up to full feed, and should have all the milk-producing food she will eat up clean three times a day.

Sometimes, in spite of all precautions the sow will be found in the act of destroying her young. I have never had any trouble of this kind, but have known it to be prevented by moistening the pigs' backs with a cloth saturated with coal-oil.

Lastly, if you would avoid scouring, keep the sleeping-rooms perfectly clean and dry, and give the dam no swill that is very sour.

The writer knows from many years of successful experience that if these suggestions are faithfully followed, but few pigs will be lost. With present prices of hogs, compared with that of everything else, nothing will pay better for careful attention to details than raising pigs.

Auglaize county, Ohio. J. AL. DOBIE.

MORE POTASH NEEDED.

1. Fodder crops, pasture grasses, corn stover and hay, all remove large amounts of potash from the soil, and these crops occupy a large proportion of our improved lands.

2. The urine of our domestic animals contains about four fifths of the total potash of their excrements.

3. When urine is allowed to waste, the manure is poor in potash.

4. When manures are exposed to rains, much of the potash, being soluble, is washed away.

5. Nearly all the special fertilizers are especially rich in phosphoric acid and do not contain enough potash.

6. Superphosphates were the first fertilizers to come into general use among our farmers.

7. When the farmer buys a fertilizer, he still, nine times out of ten, calls for a phosphate.

8. As a result of the above conditions, our soils seem to be quite generally in need of more liberal applications of potash.

9. In the case of corn the need of potash appears to be particularly prominent.

10. For a good crop of corn the fertilizer used should supply 100 to 125 pounds of actual potash per acre; 200 to 250 pounds of muriate of potash or one ton (50 bushels) of good wood ashes will do this.

11. With ordinary farm or stable manure it will generally pay to use some potash for corn; 125 to 150 pounds of muriate of potash has given profitable results.

12. The liberal use of potash means more clover in our fields, more nitrogen taken from the air, more milk in the pail, a richer manure heap, and store-houses and barns full to overflowing. It means also a sod, which, when turned, will help every other crop.

13. For the potato crop, the sulphate appears to be much superior to the muriate of potash, promoting both yield and quality in much higher degree; 300 to 400 pounds of high-grade sulphate of potash furnishes enough of this element.

14. For oats, rye and grass, nitrate of soda applied just as the growth begins in spring has proved very beneficial; 300 to 400 pounds per acre should be applied.—Prof. W. P. Brooks, Massachusetts Agricultural College.



Carrie Oreene King

Save the Children

By Purifying Their Blood

Hood's Sarsaparilla Makes Pure Blood, Cures Scrofula, Etc.

"My experience with Hood's Sarsaparilla has been very effective. My little girl, five years old, had for four years a bad skin disease. Her arms and limbs would break out in a mass of sores, discharging yellow matter. She would scratch the eruptions as though it gave relief, and tear open the sores.

Two Bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla caused the eruptions to heal and the scabs peeled off, after which the skin became soft and smooth. As a family medicine

HOOD'S Sarsaparilla CURES

we believe Hood's Sarsaparilla has no equal and I recommend it." W. L. KING, Bluff Dale, Tex. Be sure to get HOOD'S.

Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic, gentle and effective. Try a box, 25 cents.

Our Farm.

GARDEN AND FIELD NOTES.

SUBIRRIGATION.—Subirrigation on the greenhouse benches is a success, quite decidedly so. There is a little expense connected with the fixing of the benches; but our winter vegetable crops, lettuce and radishes, seem to do better when subirrigated than when watered in the ordinary fashion by sprinkling. A material advantage of the subirrigated benches is also found in the saving of time and labor. Sprinkling the beds takes a good deal of time when the weather is clear and the soil dries out fast. When beds are arranged for subirrigation all we have to do is to turn the water from pail or hose, as the case may be, right into the upright tiles or boxes at the corner or sides. Another advantage is that there is no objection to the use of washing suds in the same manner, while we would not like to apply them from above directly upon plants such as lettuce, etc., which are intended for table use.

When we come to arrange a piece of garden or field for subirrigation, however, we stand before an unsolved problem. In theory everything seems plain sailing. All we have to do is to place at the upper end of patch a box in which to turn the water, washing suds or other liquids, to be carried along in lines of small-sized tile to the opposite end. Very few practical trials have thus far been recorded. The placing of the tiles will require thought and judgment. Both the distance between the lines and the inclination or fall of each line must be determined according to the character of the soil. There are some soils that let the water pass through almost as readily as a sieve, and others that take up the water very slowly. In sandy and other soils of the former character, the tiles can be laid on considerable of an incline, and as closely and tightly as possible, otherwise the water would all soak into the ground long before it comes to the end of the line, leaving the lower part of the patch dry. In clay soils, on the other hand, the tiles may have to be laid on a dead level, and with plenty of cracks and openings all along the line, otherwise the water would all rush to the lower end, giving this an excess of water, and leaving the upper end only scantily provided.

In short, the proper way of laying the tiles for subirrigation requires a nice adjustment and consideration of all conditions, and we will have to experiment a good deal before we have this thing "down to a fine point." But it is a timely question, and apparently a matter which interests a great many gardeners; in fact, all who wish to make themselves as independent of climatic and atmospheric conditions as possible.

IRRIGATING THE CELERY PATCH.—I think I have at several times in these columns referred to the "New Celery Culture," which involves a system of close planting, and of allowing the stalks to bleach, partially at least, in the density of their own foliage. I set my plants five inches apart in rows ten inches apart. If you get the plants to grow two feet high, and of proportionate thickness, you have an incredible mass of green stuff on a small plot. To achieve such a result, however, you must furnish the plants not only with great quantities of available plant-foods, but with an abundance of water at the same time, and indeed at all times.

Few people have even an idea of the quantities of water that this immense mass of celery will pump up, partially assimilate, and partially evaporate into the air. Don't be deluded by the claim that this heavy foliage shades the ground so completely that the evaporation of moisture from the soil is reduced to a minimum. It is not the evaporation from the soil that we fear in this case, but the constant absorption of water by the roots and the exhalation from the leaves. Celery thus closely planted may do all right without artificial watering when the season is reasonably moist; but during dry weather it needs watering, not by sprinkling from overhead, but by frequent soaking of the soil. I should think that subirrigation would be just the thing for this crop. I will have a patch arranged for irrigation by tile lines in this manner; but in the meantime I am in need of information myself.

Another thing that I consider a great convenience for a celery patch is a kind of

a screen to provide half shade. The Wisconsin experiment station has used one for shading a strawberry patch, and reports satisfactory results. The device consists of posts driven into the ground at reasonable distances, and standing six feet above ground. These posts carry a network of poles. A quantity of brush, just enough to give a nice mixture of sunlight and shade, is placed upon the poles.

There can be no doubt that celery and many other crops, especially strawberries, gooseberries, currants, etc., would thrive under the protection of such a screen, and I hope that many of our farmer readers will put up a structure of this kind in their gardens. A dozen posts, a few poles and a little brush are easily procured and put up.

GROWING CARROTS.—On clean land of medium fertility carrots are not a difficult crop to grow. A reader writes from Wisconsin that he has a little patch of loam, not excessively rich, but now in clover of two year's standing. The question is whether this land can be considered good for growing carrots, and whether manure should be plowed under or spread on top after plowing. Carrots do best on a fibrous loam, and do not like soils filled with fresh manure. In this respect they are like potatoes. It is an excellent practice to feed the manure to clover, and the clover to the carrots or potatoes. If the land, however, is not as fertile as may be desired, fine manure may be spread on the clover sod and plowed under, while such materials as horse manure, ashes or concentrated fertilizers of any kind may be applied broadcast after plowing, and thoroughly worked into the soil with the harrow.

In many localities carrots are a promising farm crop, and may be made as profitable as any other ordinary farm crop, potatoes not excepted. Under favorable

circumstances three or four times as many bushels of carrots can be grown on a certain area as potatoes, and the selling price is often not much, if any, less. The crop is highly and justly valued as food for horses, and in large demand in our cities for just this purpose.

GARDENING FOR MONEY.—A Texas reader, having bought twelve acres of land at \$25 an acre, wants me to map out a plan for him how to make the most money out of his land. This is easily done. The simple recipe is:

Raise the crops which will thrive best on your soil and under your management, and sell best in your market. True, this is pretty general advice, but it is all that I or anybody else could give under the circumstances. If I were suddenly transferred into our friend's shoes, I would undoubtedly have to spend some time, efforts and experiments in the study of the situation, before I would select just the most paying crops, and possibly I might make a number of mistakes before I would hit it just right. With a town of 3,500 inhabitants within a distance of one and one-half miles, and these people willing to pay pretty fair prices for ordinary garden vegetables, I have an idea gardening could be made to pay. But you will have to feel your way along as best you can.

ASHES AND COW MANURE.—Part of a reader's garden is heavily fertilized with wood ashes, another part with cow manure. Now, he wants to know what kitchen vegetables should be planted on one part, and what on the other. This is not easily told. If the ground has been well manured with stable manure sometime in the near past, and is yet rich in humus, or consists largely of mucky matter, any vegetable could be grown on the patch fertilized with wood ashes. If the land had been rather poor previous to the application of ashes, then I would plant on it mostly vegetables which do not require much nitrogen among them, especially beans and peas. Potatoes and tomatoes would probably also do well on that part of the garden. On

the other part plant lettuce, cabbage, radishes, turnips, vines, spinach, onions, etc. JOSEPH.

STUDY YOUR SOIL.

It is not to be supposed that every farmer has or can have a great deal of knowledge of agricultural chemistry; but in this age of literature on the subject, and the practical, careful experiments being conducted by experiment stations and individuals, the results of which are made public, couched in the plainest English, it is fair to presume that the average farmer could, if he would, increase his store of knowledge of this important subject. I am aware of the fact that many times cheap fertilizers are bought because it is a question of cheap brands or none at all, but in nine out of every ten of such cases it would have been better policy to invest the same sum of money in half the quantity of fertilizer, and bought the brand rich in some one or more chemical properties which were essential to a certain crop on which the grower depended for a main money crop.

In my section there are extensive marl beds, and I can point out farm after farm which has received no other fertilizer in years; they are simply "marled" to death.

There are dozens of brands of cheap fertilizers in the market, and in many cases the cheaper the price the more is claimed for it as a general fertilizer; a sort of panacea for all the ills that soil is heir to.

As in the case of marl, so with certain commercial fertilizers—they are applied not only because they are cheap, but because the farmer does not know its value to his soil; too often it is a case of simply "fertilizer" without the slightest regard to the needs of the soil. Surely, the needs of the soil should be studied as closely as the needs of one's live stock. Why give your soil continued doses of phosphoric acid when it needs nitrogen, any more than to keep your cattle on a steady diet of hay or corn fodder when they need grain?

G. R. K.

CURES OTHERS

THE ONLY GUARANTEED REMEDY.

FAVORITE PRESCRIPTION. This guarantee has been faithfully carried out for many years. Did this medicine not possess extraordinary curative properties this offer could not be made by a house of well-known responsibility and integrity.

THE OUTGROWTH OF A VAST EXPERIENCE.

The treatment of many thousands of cases of those chronic weaknesses and distressing ailments peculiar to females, at the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y., has afforded a vast experience in nicely adapting and thoroughly testing remedies for the cure of woman's peculiar maladies.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the outgrowth of this great and valuable experience. Thousands of testimonials received from patients and from physicians who have

WOMB DISEASE.

MRS. W. O. GUNEKEL, of No. 1461 South St., Terre Haute, Indiana, writes: "I had been a sufferer from womb trouble for eight years, having doctored with the most skillful physicians, but finding only temporary relief from medicines prescribed by them. I was advised by a friend to take the 'Favorite Prescription,' which I did, and found, in taking six bottles of the 'Prescription' and two of the 'Discovery,' that it has effected a positive cure, for which words cannot express my gratitude for the relief from the great suffering that I so long endured."

SHORTENS LABOR.

Mrs. W. C. BAKER, of South Bend, Pacific Co., Wash., writes: "I began taking your 'Favorite Prescription' the first month of pregnancy, and have continued taking it since confinement. I did not experience the nausea or any of the ailments due to pregnancy, after I began taking your 'Prescription.' I was only in labor a short time, and the physician said I got along unusually well."

We think it saved me a great deal of suffering. I was troubled a great deal with leucorrhea also, and it has done a world of good for me."

A Treatise (160 pages) on "Woman and Her Diseases," sent in plain, sealed envelope, on receipt of 10 cents for postage.

Address,

WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,

Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, BUFFALO, N. Y.



FEMALE WEAKNESS.

MRS. F. L. INMAN, of Manton, Wexford Co., Mich., writes: "I began taking 'Favorite Prescription' about a year ago. For years I have suffered with falling and ulceration of the womb but today, I am enjoying perfect health. I took four bottles of the 'Prescription' and two of the 'Golden Medical Discovery.' Every lady suffering from female weakness should try the 'Prescription' and 'Golden Medical Discovery.'"

PERIODICAL PAINS.

MISS MARY J. TANNER, of North Lawrence, St. Lawrence Co., N.Y., writes: "I was sick for four years. For two years I could do no work. I had five different physicians, who pronounced my case a poor or impoverished condition of the blood, and uterine trouble. I suffered a great deal with pain in both sides, and much tenderness on pressing over the womb. I bloated at times in my bowels and limbs. Was troubled with leucorrhea. I could not sleep, and was troubled with palpitation of the heart. Suffered a great deal of pain in my head, temples, forehead, and eyes. I had a troublesome cough, and raised a great deal, and at times experienced a good deal of

pain in my chest and lungs. My voice at times was very weak. I suffered excruciating monthly, periodical pains. Since taking seven bottles of your 'Favorite Prescription' some time ago, I have enjoyed better health than I have for more than four years previously; in fact, for several months past I have been able to work at sewing. I have gained in weight thirty-nine pounds since taking your medicines; the soreness and pain, of which I formerly complained so much, have disappeared."

GENERAL DEBILITY, SICK HEADACHE; MANY ACHE AND PAINS.

MRS. J. H. LANSING, of South Glen Falls, Saratoga Co., N.Y., writes: "After my third child was born, I barely gained strength enough in two years' time, so as to be able to crawl about to accomplish the little house work that I had to do, and that only by lying down to rest many times each day; had sick headache very often, many pains and aches all the time. After I had taken one bottle of your 'Favorite Prescription,' I could see a great change in my strength and less sick headaches. Continued taking the medicine until I had taken seven bottles of the 'Favorite' and one of the 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I am now able to do housework for myself and husband and two children aged nine and five. I also take dressmaking, and enjoy walking a mile at a time when I can have the time to do so. And I am sure it is all due to Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription as I know I was failing fast before I commenced to take it."



MRS. LANSING.

WHY NOT YOU?

Orchard and Small Fruits.
CONDUCTED BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

SPRAYING FRUIT-TREES FOR FUNGOID DISEASES.

From an address delivered before the New Jersey State Horticultural Society by Dr. Charles Parry.

Many fruit growers use the Bordeaux mixture regularly on their apple as well as pear trees for fungoid diseases, and it is no doubt beneficial, not only in securing finer fruit the year it is used, but by keeping the leaves healthy and hanging late on the trees, more fruit-buds are formed and a heavier crop of fruit is secured the following year.

The Bordeaux mixture has a magical effect upon the grape. So uncertain had the grape crop become in some parts of New Jersey from the rot and mildew that many growers grubbed out their vineyards, but the mixture has so changed the state of affairs that the grape crop is now one of the most certain and reliable grown, and many growers who grubbed out their vines a few years ago are now planting anew.

Our improved method of making the Bordeaux mixture consists of using prussiate of potash to determine the amount of lime necessary to neutralize the sulphate of copper, instead of weighing a small amount of lime, and slaking it each time. It is difficult in some places to get small quantities of fresh lime, and a large quantity, if not used, soon spoils. By keeping on hand a bottle of the solution of prussiate of potash, costing five or ten cents, a bushel or more of lime can be slaked at a time. Then after the sulphate of copper is dissolved, add the milk of lime until the test shows there is sufficient, then add enough water to make the required quantity, say about eight gallons for each pound of sulphate of copper. A few drops of the prussiate of potash in the sulphate of copper solution gives a deep brown stain; as the lime is added this stain shows less and less, and when it no longer appears there is enough lime added. The old plan of dissolving the sulphate of copper was to use hot water, or to put the lumps in the bottom of a tub or barrel and stir them. By this plan the water on the bottom became saturated with the copper-salt until it could dissolve no more, and being heavier than the pure water, it remained on the bottom, and prevented further solution, so that it took days sometimes to dissolve large lumps of the copper-salt. The proper plan is to place the lumps of sulphate of copper in a grape-basket and suspend it in the water as near the top as possible. As the water takes up the salt it becomes heavier and sinks, while a fresh supply surrounds the salt. Thus a constant circulation is maintained, and it is surprising how quickly the lumps are dissolved.

The effects of the Bordeaux mixture were strikingly shown the past season in a large orchard of Bartlett pear-trees affected with leaf-blight. This orchard blooms freely every spring, but persistently fails to bear fruit. A series of experiments upon the orchard with various fertilizers, running from one half ton to three tons per acre, was interesting, but was not effectual in producing fruit. The leaves in this orchard generally fall in July and August from leaf-blight. To counteract this, a series of plots were sprayed with different mixtures a different number of times, from four to six, and at different seasons of the year from April to August. Without going into detail, it is sufficient to say, by the last of September there was not a leaf to be seen in the orchard, except on the sprayed trees. Those that had been sprayed several times, and especially those which had been treated for two years, were as rank and green with abundant foliage as they had been in the spring. It could be plainly seen on tall trees how far the spray had reached; below the line the foliage was green and abundant, above that line the trees were as bare of leaves as in winter. Another noticeable feature was the difference in the fruit-buds. On the unsprayed trees these were small, puny buds that could hardly be distinguished from leaf-buds. On the sprayed trees they were large and plump and gave every promise of abundant fruit. The trees sprayed in 1892 bore twice as much fruit in 1893 as the unsprayed trees did; while these same trees that have now been sprayed two years promise to do still better in 1894.

From a careful examination of the different plots, sprayed a different number of times, and at different seasons of the year, we came to the conclusion that for that orchard two sprayings, one on June 1st and the other on June 15th, were for all practical purposes sufficient.

While it is not so necessary to spray the Bartlett pear in neighboring orchards as it is in this one, there are nevertheless other varieties, such as Clairogeau, Flemish Beauty and Louise Bonne de Jersey, that are of little value without it, and are so much improved by it that the pears look like different varieties of fruit. Another point in favor of spraying the Bartlett is its effect in making the fruit hang longer on the tree, and as the late Bartletts sell the best, the crop will bring more money therefore.

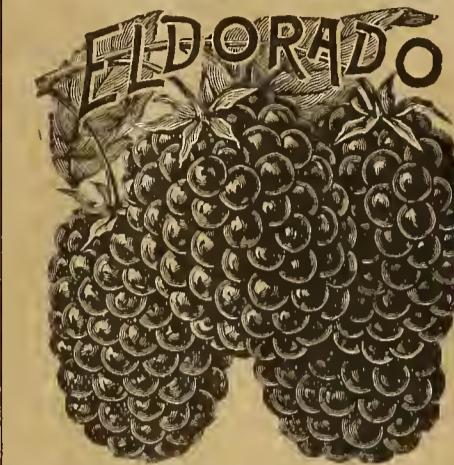
The quince is another fruit that is greatly benefited by the Bordeaux mixture, and

where it is applied regularly and systematically, year after year, this shy-bearing tree changes to a regular and abundant bearer of large-sized, handsome fruit, that colors up well and sells at the highest market price.

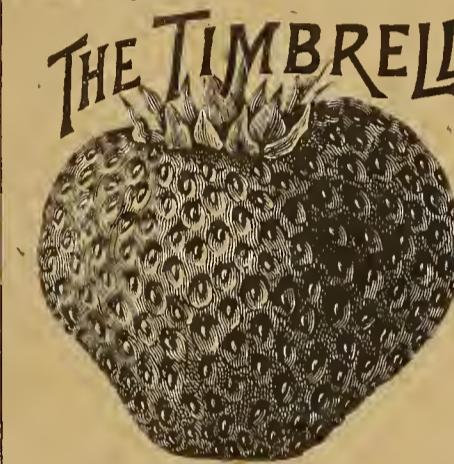
TWO SUPERIOR NEW FRUITS.

THE ELDORADO BLACKBERRY.

An accidental seedling, has been in cultivation for twelve years, and at different experiment stations for four years. It has never been winter-killed, or failed to produce a full crop. The vines are very vigorous and



hardy. Summing up its qualities, it is productive, hardy (not being injured in Minnesota), of extra fine quality and sweet, without core—a combination never before attained in a blackberry.



TIMBRELL STRAWBERRY.

This new berry was first offered to the public last season. It is of large size, a good shipper, enormously productive and of best quality.

The plant is a strong, robust grower, will withstand any temperature, and will not rust under the hottest sun of the South.

E. W. Reid, Bridgeport, Ohio, is the introducer of these new fruits.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

BY SAMUEL B. GREEN.

Old Peach Seeds.—J. C. B., Brinkerton, Pa., asks if peach seeds three years old will grow. I think so, if the meats appear sound. I should soak them in water for a few days, until the water reaches the pits, but be careful not to get the pits too much water-soaked. Then mix the seeds with sand and allow them to freeze until spring. You can then tell by their appearance whether they will grow, for the good seed will have started a little by that time. The seeds should then be sifted from the sand, and all that are not frost-cracked should be cracked with a hammer before planting.

Elberta and Crosby Peaches—Winter Pears.—E. B., Moravia, N. Y. The Elberta is one of the handsomest peaches. It is a yellow freestone, having a bright yellow skin with a red cheek, and very hardy at the North, and one of the most promising new kinds. Season, September at the North. The Crosby (Excellior) is especially valuable on account of unusual hardiness of its fruit-buds. It is said to be the hardiest of peaches in this respect. It resembles Wheatland very closely. It is of medium size, of a deep yellow color, with brilliant red on the exposed side. In quality the best of the yellow-fleshed peaches, and a free-stone. Its fault seems to be tendency to overbear, which must be remedied by severe thinning. It ripens just before Crawford Late.—Three good winter pears are Anjou, Lawrence and Winter Nels. The best of all is the Anjou, which, though a late autumn, pear, may be easily kept into winter by a little extra care.

Care of Young Orchard.—R. B., Angola, Ohio, writes: "I have an orchard that has been set two years. The first season I cultivated it in corn and followed the corn with wheat. Last spring it was sown in clover, but the drought killed most of the clover. Last winter I mulched most of my trees with stable manure, and will mulch the remainder this winter. I will dig around the trees and work the mulch into the ground around the trees. The ground is high and the soil is thin. Would it be a good plan as soon as the clover is ripe next summer, to sow in rye, and the following spring plow the rye under and sow in clover? Would the rye make a good fertilizer?"

REPLY.—The treatment you propose for the orchard is an excellent one to follow. While the rye would not add very much to the fertilizing elements in the soil as we usually consider them, it would by its decay improve the physical condition of the soil, and make it much better fitted for tree growth, and less liable to injury from drought. The clover would hardly do well if not sown until after the rye was pretty high, so I would prefer to sow to buckwheat, which is an excellent orchard crop to protect the soil from the sun, and does well even on poor land. It would then be well to seed down very early with clover, and a light seeding of oats the following spring. By that time the land should be in good condition.

NEBRASKA LANDS FOR SALE. 70,000 acres in Lincoln Co. Those meaning business, apply to HUGH RALSTON, Rock Island, Ill.

PLANTS Strawberry, Blackberry, Currants, Gooseberry, Asparagus, Grapes, **TREES** Pear, Peach, Chestnut, Walnut. Send for Catalogue. J. S. COLLINS' SON, Moorestown, N. J.

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10 Choice Annuals (everybody's favorites), all new fresh seeds, sure to grow and bloom this season.

Pansy, 40 colors and markings; Phlox, 20 colors; Verbena, 18 colors; Pinks, 10 colors; Petunia, 10 colors; Asters, 12 colors; Balsam, 8 colors; Mononette Sweet mixed, Sweet Peas, 12 colors and Sweet Alyssum.

FOR 12 CENTS and the name and address of two of your friends who grow flowers, I will send, post-paid, the complete collection, one pkt. each of the ten varieties (enough for any ordinary garden.) This is a HONORABLE offer, made to introduce my home grown flower seeds to new customers and which I guarantee to please you or the amount paid refunded and the seeds given as a present.

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FOR TRIAL. I have found that the best way to advertise good Seeds is to give away a sample for trial. If you will send me a 2-cent stamp to pay postage, I will mail free one package, your selection, of either Cabbage, Carrot, Celery, Cucumber, Lettuce, Must or Water Melon, Onion, Parsnip, Pepper, Pumpkin, Radish, Spinach, Squash, Tomato, Turnip, or of Flower Seeds—Aster, Balsam, Celosia, Carnation, Mignonette, Pansy, Phlox, Poppy, Sweet Peas, Zinnia, or Verbena, and one of my 1894 Catalogues. Under any circumstances do not buy your Seeds until you see it, for I can save you money. Over 200,000 people say my seeds are the cheapest and best. I have earliest vegetables on record. Discount and large prizes to agents. 50 cents worth of Seeds free with \$1.00 order. Write to-day. F. B. MILLS, Box 22, Rose Hill, N. Y.

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A. B. DAVIS & SON, Purcellville, Virginia.

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New Ever Blooming Dwarf Calla, "The Little Gem," continues to grow and bloom for years without ceasing, and the quantity of flowers which a large plant produces is astonishing. It seldom grows higher than fifteen inches. Price for plants that will bloom this season, 25c. each. Five plants for \$1. For \$1 we will mail to any address 8 large 2-yr. old hardy hybrid perpetual Roses, or 9 large 2-yr. old ever blooming Roses for immediate effect, or our Champion set of 20 strong, stocky, hardy, ever blooming Roses, or 20 fine, large double Geraniums, or 20 fine single Geraniums from the Brabant strain, English Prize, Tricolors or Zonals, Fuchsias, 20 splendid Carnations, 20 beautiful Coleus, 20 Verbenas, all colors, or 16 fine, large flowering Begonias. For 50c. we will send you one strong plant each of the La France roses, white, pink, striped and red, and with this collection will add a large plant of the Datura Wrightii, or Angel's Trumpet. This is a great novelty, has immense flowers, grows to be a tree, and is perfectly hardy. The set of La France roses, large 2-yr. old plants, including Angel's Trumpet, for 75c. Any 3 of the above sets for \$2.50, any 4 for \$3.00, any 6 for \$4.00, or the entire 12 collections for \$7.00. Write for catalogue and make your selections.

SCHMIDT & BOTLEY, Springfield Greenhouses, Springfield, O.

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Equal to wild berry in flavor. CROSSTON PEACH, frost proof. Fruits every year. Colored plates. Full descriptions. Free Catalogue. All fruits. Write at once. HALE BROS., South Glastonbury, Conn.

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LOOK HERE! 6 fine large Gladioli bulbs, 25 cts. 15 for 50c.; 100 for \$2.00. Smaller bulbs, will bloom this summer, 15 for 25c.; 35 for 50c.; 100 for \$1.50. These are all extra fine mixed colors. One ounce of my exquisite Sweet Peas with every order. Silver or P. O. Note (no stamps). S. J. GALLOWAY, Eaton, Ohio.

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Unless they contain sufficient Potash. Complete fertilizers should contain at least 6 per cent of Potash. Fertilizers for Potatoes, Tobacco, Fruits and Vegetables should contain from 10 to 15 per cent of Potash. Farmers should use fertilizers containing enough Potash, or apply Potash salts, such as Muriate of Potash, Sulphate of Potash and Kainit. For information and pamphlets, address German Kali Works, 93 Nassau St., New York City.

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HEADQUARTERS for Pear, Plum, Apple, Nut, and all other Trees, of the best. Also the finest and best Strawberries, and Choice Small Fruits. Write for our Catalogue of 1894. You will be interested in our Big 4 Jr. and Frost Proof Strawberries.

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Our Farm.

THE POULTRY YARD.

Conducted by P. H. Jacobs, Hammonton, New Jersey.

SPRING FEEDING FOR EGGS.

FARMERS, as a class, do not draw a line, when feeding poultry, on the merits or inequality of the foods provided. They feed the same foods during all seasons, allowing more corn in winter, however, and if any variety is secured by the hens it is not because the farmer directly provides it, especially in summer, but because the hens assist themselves.

The spring is the best season of the year for the hens to produce eggs, and also to hatch out chicks. It is not unusual to have a lot of fine, healthy hens that do not lay when spring arrives. As a rule, all hens that have not given a good account of themselves in the winter will begin to lay as soon as spring opens, and keep at it until late in the summer, but the farmer who has been generous to his hens in winter is more disposed to continue the same food in spring, and gets his hens entirely out of condition for laying.

It requires but little education to understand the difference between nitrogenous foods and carbonaceous foods, which may be given somewhat by the simple assertion that the former produces lean meat and the latter the fat meat, so far as it applies to animals. Nitrogenous foods also supply the albumen of the eggs, while the carbonaceous foods provide the yolk. Of course, the carbonaceous foods, being fat-producing, necessarily sustain the heat of the body. We mention the above, in a brief manner, in order to call attention to spring feeding.

In the spring it is customary to depend largely upon the early green food. We have known farmers to turn their hens out on rye early in the spring, the result being that the hens became poor and ceased laying, although they also had grain at night. This was caused by the rye being too laxative. When very early in the season, after rye begins to grow, it is composed mostly of water, the water containing also laxative salts in its composition, the hens being reduced in flesh and become debilitated by feeding upon it. The proper method would be to allow the hens a mess of meat (about a pound to sixteen hens), or cut bone and meat, in the morning, turn the hens on the rye for an hour, and gradually extend the time daily, giving a full mess of grain at night.

Hens will not lay a large number of eggs unless they have nitrogenous foods, but will become too fat on grain and soon cease to lay, as a rule preferring to hatch out broods of chicks. Ground meat, cut bone from the butcher, sheep livers, trimmings of lean meat, milk and curds are nitrogenous foods. Reduce the grain in proportion as you provide the other foods. Whenever possible, let the hens be compelled to scratch for their grain. There is but little advantage in mixing ground grains, unless for the purpose of adding something else, such as linseed-meal, and too much work is done in that way. Sunflower seeds will answer in place of linseed-meal. It is better to feed whole grains and scatter them widely.

GEESE IN SPRING.

The goose is a good mother, and takes great care of her young. When the goslings are out they must not be allowed on ponds, as cold water is detrimental, causing cramps by chilling them. The old geese are better for breeding purposes than those that are young. It takes the eggs four weeks to hatch. The best food for them is clover hay, cut fine, and scalded or cooked turnips. Bran and ground oats may be sprinkled over the mess. Geese prefer bulky food, hence they should not be fed on grain entirely, or they will prove unsatisfactory as layers, and their eggs will not hatch.

BUY YOUR EGGS EARLY.

Do not overlook our recent admonition to procure eggs of pure breeds as early as you can do so, as the early-hatched chicks will have more time for growth. There are some excellent breeders who advertise in these columns, and nearly all are well known to the editor of this department as reliable, and who will endeavor to please every customer.

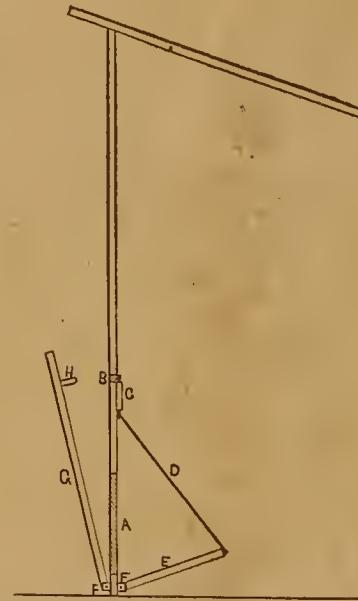
FIRE!

The fire which occurred in our office and manufactory yesterday will not delay us in any way in filling orders. We have already moved into more extensive quarters, with 75 mechanics at their benches. All of our departments are running in full force. We are already shipping Incubators and Brooders as before. Reliable Incubator & Brooder Co., Quincy, Feb. 22, 1894.

SELF-OPENING POULTRY-HOUSE.

The illustration is to show a contrivance by which the hens let themselves out of the poultry-house in the morning, when they come off the roost. The house can be shut up at night to protect against enemies, but the fowls can come out at any time, so as to permit sleepy poultrymen to slumber without being compelled to get up and open the door. The hens will be up and out early without giving any person annoyance. When the fowls wish to go out they always resort to some accustomed place near the door. One may step on the platform to which the chain of the spring is attached and her weight pulls the spring down, the staple is released from the catch and the weight of the board causes it to fall, which opens the door.

The designer, Mr. Smith M. Evans, Alabama, says that it works well and is very satisfactory. In the illustration A is the opening for fowls to enter; B is the hole through which the staple in the door passes to catch on the spring catch inside; C is the spring catch with chain (D) attached to the trap-door (E), on which the fowls step, the weight of their bodies drawing down the catch, which liberates the staple (H), and the weight of the door (G) causes it to fall, allowing the fowls to come out at the opening (A); I is the spring latch of the catch and F show hinges. The arrangement is very simple, and can be applied to any poultry-house.



CONTRIVANCE FOR SELF-OPENING POULTRY HOUSE.

Any person can make the contrivance, and it is given here for the benefit of all who may be interested.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

To procure good laying pullets, use the eggs from your best hens. Select a male from a good laying strain, pure bred, of such breed as you prefer, and mate him with the selected hens. If the hens are also pure bred, so much the better. Use these eggs for producing pullets and sell the young cockerels as soon as they are large enough for market. Push the pullets in growth and your flock will be better the next season.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Mating Ducks.—B. L. S., Salem, Ohio, writes: "What proportion of ducks should be with one drake?"

REPLY:—Five females and one male are considered the proper number.

The Standard.—E. McM., Elgin, Ill., writes: "Is there a book called 'The Standard,' and what is it used for?"

REPLY:—'The Standard' is a book used by the American Poultry Association for defining the points of the different breeds of poultry.

Preserving Eggs.—B. C., Burning Springs, W. Va., writes: "I wish to know how to preserve eggs. Please state in the FARM AND FIRESIDE."

REPLY:—Use only fresh eggs, keep them in a cool place, and turn them half over three times a week. It is the best of all methods, and no solutions or mixtures are necessary.

Floors.—E. L. B., Chatham, N. Y., writes: "Would a cement floor or a board floor be better than earth, and which should be preferred, cement or boards?"

REPLY:—The cement floor is excellent if kept well covered with straw, but boards are better in some respects, though offering a harboring place for rats, which is not the case if the floors are of cement.

Disease Among Ducks.—H. M. D., Gloucester C. H., Va., writes: "My ducks refuse to eat, they drop the grain they pick up, their eyes get small, they lose the use of their legs, and they are beginning to die."

REPLY:—Change the food, giving less grain and more ground meat. They have perhaps been overfed, and also exposed to dampness. Bran and meal, with cut clover or leaves of corn fodder, scalded, should also be given. Keep them dry, using straw.

Loss of Motion.—N. P. K., Corry, Pa., writes: "I have lost several hens the past season. They appear to lose the use of their legs and remain on the floor with their wings extended, but eat readily for several days and finally die."

REPLY:—Remove the male from the hens and keep them on straw, no roosts. The difficulty is frequent with fat hens, and as soon as removed from the male they begin to recover.

Damp House.—A. S. P., Pottsville, Pa., writes: "My house is covered with tarred paper on the walls, with building paper over it, yet the tarred paper becomes wet and remains so."

REPLY:—Nearly all new houses are damp the first winter. Tarred paper also condenses the moisture of the air, as it is colder than the air of the room because of its contact with the outer wall. Allow the air free circulation during the day.

Probably Roup.—Mrs. L. H., Hartford, Pa., writes: "There is a disease among my turkeys and chickens. At first they begin to droop, and in a short time are lame."

REPLY:—As both turkeys and chickens are affected alike, the cause may be roup, due to exposure. If they have been compelled to roost outside, they may have been injured by having frozen feet. The only remedy is to keep them dry and warm, as it is too laborious to treat so many by handling each one.

Blindness.—Mrs. S. N. C., Ashtabula, Ohio, writes: "What is the cause of my hens apparently becoming blind? They are otherwise healthy. Three of them are blind and another nearly so."

REPLY:—It is one of the results of exposure to a draft on the heads at night, probably from a crack in the wall or from a top ventilator. There is no remedy but to keep them warm and dry, anointing the eyes with a few drops of sweet-oil, but they do not always recover their sight.

FORMS OF GOVERNMENT.

The forms of government of the different nations of the earth are many. A classified list of all nations, with their forms of government, geographical locations, size and population will be found in the People's Atlas of the World, as described on page 24. Thousands of dollars in value are given away with every Atlas.

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Brooders only \$5. Best and cheapest for raising chicks; 40 first premiums; 3,000 testimonial; send for catalogue. G. S. SINGER, Box 533, Cardington, O.

HARNESS

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Best thing known to produce Eggs. Some particles of Fish are attached, which makes these shells more valuable for feeding. 6 barrels \$4.00, or sample barrel \$1.00. S. YOUNG, EAST HARWICH, MASS.

500 Fine, Large Chicks

at half price. Plymouth Rock, Leghorn, Hamburg, Wyandottes, Bantams, Langshans, Cochins and Brahmans. Eggs \$2.00 per fifteen. Send two-cent stamp for twenty-page catalogue, gives full information. JOE A. DIENST, Columbus, O.

Mammoth New Catalogue Almanac

AND GUIDE TO POULTRY RAISERS. 64 large pages, printed in colors. Description of all leading varieties of fowls. Over 50 fine illustrations. Plans for Poultry houses. Remedies for all diseases. Recipe for Poultry Powders. The finest thing out—everybody wants one. Only 10c. C. C. SHOEMAKER, Freeport, Ill., U.S.A.

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WHITE HOLLAND TURKEY Eggs from selected pure bred birds. \$2.50 for 12. C. I. Johnson, Summerville, Pa.

PURE BROWN LEGHORNS. Best Layers known. Eggs \$1 per 15. A. BAGWELL, Reno, Ky.

PURE BRED POULTRY from premium stock. Eggs \$1.50 per 12. Stock for sale. Catalog free. Address Mt. Airy Poultry Yards, Rural Retreat, Va.

NEW BOOK PROFIT AND LOSS IN POULTRY. J. E. WHITE, South Glens Falls, New York.

HIGH SCORING S. C. Brown and White Leghorns and B. Plymouth Rocks a specialty. 3 Grand Yards of Prize Winners. Eggs, \$1.00 for 12; \$2.00 for 30. Stock for sale cheap in fall. Robt. L. Gray, Winchester, Va.

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Poultry Supplies Our Line is Most Complete. Our Prices are Right. Our Illustrated Circular is Free. Write for it. JOHNSON & STOKES, 217 & 219 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa.

IMPROVED PEERLESS HATCHER SOLD UNDER A GUARANTEE that it is positively self-regulating and will hatch fully 80 per cent. of fertile eggs, or it can be returned and money refunded. Reasonable in price. Self-Regulating BROODERS. Send 4 cents for catalogue. H. M. SHEER & BRO., Quincy, Ill.

THE IMPROVED VICTOR INCUBATOR Hatches Chickens by Steam. Absolutely self-regulating. The simplest, most reliable and cheapest first-class Hatcher in the market. Circulars free. GEO. ERTEL & CO., Quincy, Ill.

SIMPLEX HATCHER. The Most Perfect INCUBATOR MADE. Quick and certain; Hatches every egg that a hen could hatch; Regulates itself automatically; Reduces the cost of poultry raising to a minimum. Best in every way—lowest in price. Send for Illus. Catalogue. SIMPLEX HATCHER CO., QUINCY, ILL.

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CHAPTER III.

THE OPINION OF AN EXPERT.

THE ship's doctor still thought of the cripple as he walked the deck at the last moment before the steamer started. "There's something remarkable about that boy," he said to himself. "Let's have another look at him." And he turned to the rail by the upper gang-plank, down which friends of the departing passengers were still hurrying, while men on the wharf held the ropes, ready to pull it back when the whistle sounded.

Sidney stood not far from the post where he left him. His club shoe was lifted in the air. His body was twisting about and cringing. His hands, clasped behind him, were pulling desperately upon each other, but his eyes remained steadily fastened upon a coil of rope.

"That boy's nerves are in a frightful condition," muttered the doctor; "but he has a will there that is capable of meeting emergencies, and if he lives, it will some day rule his body as calmly as it is now ruling his eyes."

He had looked farther and seen more than the village doctor. But he was not an expert. He was simply interested, as every German student is, in metaphysics. The last whistle blew while he was watching. The men caught the gang-plank, and as if to show how little authority his will had over his body at present, Sidney sprang into the air, struggled for a moment to keep the club shoe from touching the ground, lost his balance, stumbled, fell, picked himself up, and—

Probably in the excitement of the moment the ship's doctor, who was watching him, was the only one who noticed the little atom of a boy dodge under the gang-plank, slide down the luggage-chute beneath it and leap into the open port.

"A queer combination to run away to sea," he muttered, and the steamer moved out into the channel.

High and low, fore and aft he sought the little cripple, until he came to the conclusion that he must have gone overboard instead of into the port; had been found and sent back by the pilot; or had changed his mind at the last moment. In any case he was disappointed, though he hardly knew why. But when it was growing dark, from between two cases of meat left on the deck for immediate use, he saw the tip of a wooden shoe protrude. The space seemed too narrow for any human body to stow itself away, and with a shudder, thinking that the boy must have been crushed there, he peered anxiously into the crevice.

"Shine yer boots, gent? Shine?" came faintly from the shadows.

"Ay, ay, boy! Come on, now, and shine them up good," he exclaimed with a sigh of relief, speaking in English, not caring to have the cripple recognize him.

Sidney crept quickly from his hiding-place and began his work, and though his body continually cringed and twisted about, his hands moved rapidly and skilfully.

"Where are you bound?" the doctor asked.

"To Germany," replied the boot-black.

"Got your ticket?" asked the doctor.

"No, sir; but I've 'most three dollars toward it," said Sidney, "and the rest I can make up, blacking boots on the way."

The doctor only smiled, and presently asked:

"Got a father and mother?"

"My mother is dead," Sidney replied.

"And your father?"

"That boot's done, sir," Sidney said, and the doctor, who was watching him closely, saw a tear fall on the box as he changed his feet.

"What are you going to do in Germany?" he asked.

"Study medicine," replied the boot-black, as he began on the other shoe.

"With only three dollars in your pocket?" the doctor repeated.

"I will do it in some way," Sidney replied.

"Any one can accomplish anything, if he really tries."

The doctor smiled, for Sidney was repeating in English what he had said to him in German, on the wharf.

"But it is harder for some than for others," he added.

"It will be the very hardest for me," said Sidney. "That's why I'm going to Germany, to get the very best doctors to teach me. And maybe some of them can cure my foot."

The doctor glanced at the helpless little foot, twisted under the other on the deck.

"Where there's a will there's a way," he repeated, but added to himself, "though there's will enough behind those eyes, there's precious little else to help it out. Poor boy!"

The work was done. He stamped upon the deck and inspected his boots, while he thought of something else, and asked:

"How much?"

"You paid me a quarter on the wharf, so I owe you three shillings more, at least," Sidney repeated, looking up for the first time.

looked about him for a moment, and turning to the doctor, asked:

"Is this your room?" Receiving a nod in reply, his face lit up with a smile which completely transfigured it as he exclaimed, "Why, then you are a doctor, too!" And from that moment a strong bond of friendship existed between the ship's burly young doctor and the timid cripple.

"Why does everyone think that I can't be a doctor?" Sidney asked one evening as they sat together.

"It is because they do not know you," the doctor replied.

"But I will be, even if all the world says I can't," exclaimed the cripple.

"And that is just the reason why," replied the doctor, stroking his curly head. "It is the easiest thing in the world for one who has made a failure of life to lay it all to fate and say that circumstances are to blame for what he is. It is the grandest thing in the world for one to make a success of life in spite of fate and everyone's opinion to the contrary."

"you," said the doctor, smiling as he waved a farewell.

Sidney watched the strange sights, and tried to realize that he was actually in Germany and on his way to study medicine; but it seemed almost impossible.

Dr. von Opel was sipping a cup of coffee and smoking a long-stemmed pipe, when a servant presented the letter which Sidney had brought. He carefully adjusted his pipe and read:

"The bearer of this is as curious and interesting a composition as was ever covered with the human skin. He is an American, but proficient in German. He is well educated and refined, but I found him blacking boots upon the wharf in New York. He is in search of the best man in the world to cure his deformity and aid him to become a doctor of medicine. I will be responsible for him and his expenses, and before you have known him long I am sure you will say that I am right, and that with a currency better than gold he will reward you."

"Joseph was a queer boy, always doing odd things," muttered the professor. "I wonder what he has done now. Show me the young man."

It was fortunate for Sidney that the professor's wife was present at the time, with a motherly heart that was as large as her husband's head, for the impression which Sidney produced as he entered may have been startling, but surely it was not prepossessing. He was better aware than the professor himself into what an important presence he was being led. It had required the nerve and courage of one both strong and brave to make his way from the Shenandoah valley to the great German university; but it required more nerve and courage than the whole combined to present himself to Professor von Opel.

The professor said, "Good-morning," and stared at him. Sidney tried to speak, but not a sound would come from his quivering lips.

"You want to study medicine?" said the professor, with an accent that sounded almost like a sneer. It was quite unintentional, but it sent a cold shiver to the cripple's heart, for all of his hope, all of his future he had centered in that man. He did not try to speak. He leaned heavily upon his crutch to keep his body as still as possible and simply nodded.

"You want a nurse more than a teacher, and a bed in a hospital more than a seat in a lecture-room," was Dr. von Opel's first comment.

The professor's wife saw two big tears making their way down Sidney's cheeks, and going to him, she led him gently to a chair, saying:

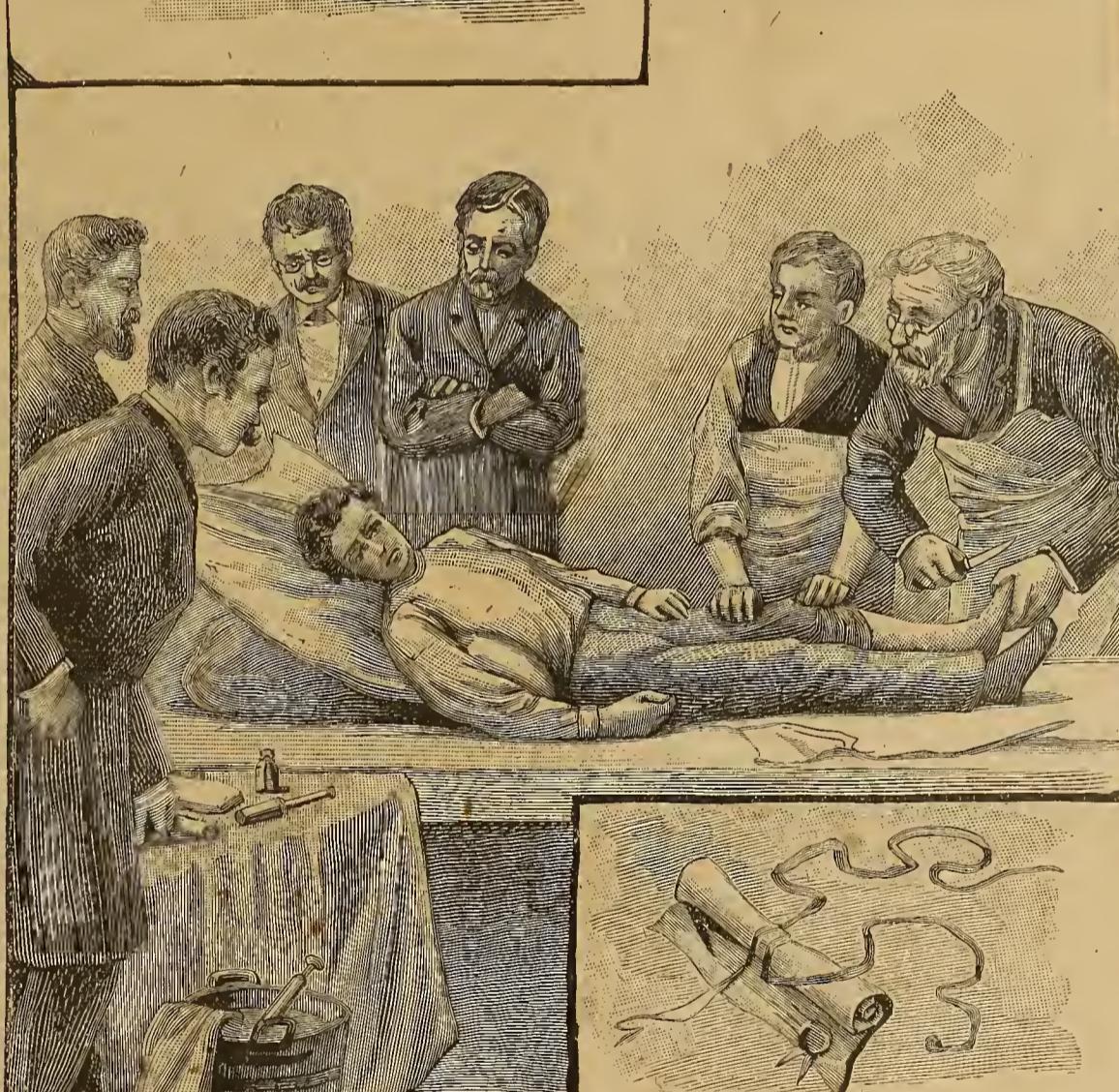
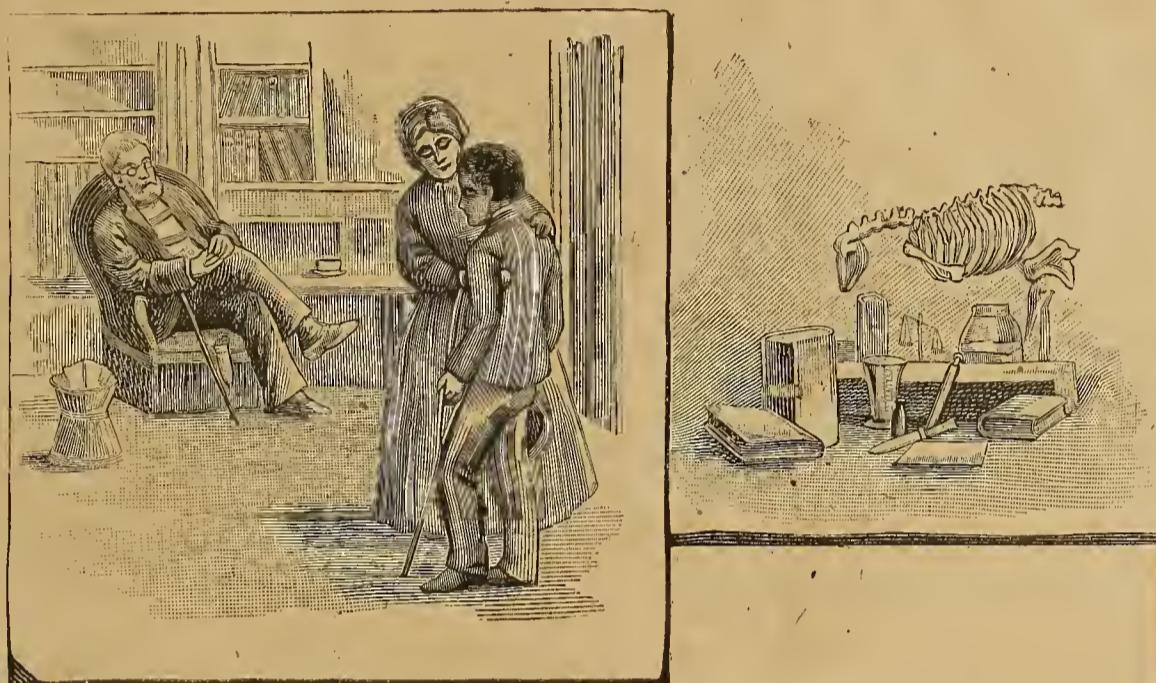
"You shall have both nurse and teacher, hospital and lecture-room, so do not fear. You have a lame foot, and something must be done for it. You are not very strong, and we must help you if we can. You have made a long journey from America to find us. You must be very much in earnest, and those are the people who always succeed in everything they undertake. So you must keep up your courage."

By this time the professor had recovered a little from the first shock of seeing such an unpromising specimen thrust upon his good graces. He began to question Sidney concerning his life from babyhood. Then he made a careful examination of every part of his body. He was several days about it, and before he had finished he was as much interested in the cripple as the ship's doctor had been.

"Joseph was right about that boy," was his next comment, and Sidney found both nurse and teacher, hospital and lecture-room in the professor's own home.

Vainly they endeavored to persuade Sidney to have the operation on his foot delayed until he was stronger; and when at last the professor yielded and promised to perform it the following day, Sidney looked up with such a strange light in his eyes to say, "I thank you," that the professor stared at him in blank astonishment, and turned away, muttering, "Joseph was right."

The morning came. It was impossible to produce unconsciousness, on account of his doubtful heart, and wide awake, the little patient lay stretched upon the operating-table, while the great specialist, surrounded by his assistants, performed one of the most painful operations of tenotomy. Not a groan escaped from the pale lips, however, as the knife crept on its subcutaneous way, severing the contracted tendons. There was not a quiver even in the most delicate muscles of the face. They were held like iron. Not a nerve in the frail body flinched, to the very end.



"YOU SHALL HAVE BOTH NURSE AND TEACHER, HOSPITAL AND LECTURE-ROOM, SO DO NOT FEAR."
NOT A GROAN ESCAPED FROM THE PALE LIPS.

The fact that he had been so easily recognized was only another proof to the doctor of a reliable authority working away behind those eyes, as independent as could be of the almost useless body, and he stood looking down into them, wondering what else he could find there, when Sidney roused him with the question:

"Is there any place upon the ship where a boy could buy some bread?"

"Heavens!" exclaimed the doctor, suddenly realizing that, useless as it was, that frail body was at least capable of suffering. "Bread, after being down in that crack for half a day? Nonsense! Come with me and have an honest supper. We'll give that boy a steward to keep for you until you leave the ship. You couldn't do anything with it on shipboard, but I'll see you safely to the other side."

Supper was followed by a warm bath in salt-water and a bed upon a sofa in the doctor's room. Sidney submitted in wondering silence until he lay in bed, a very different being from the boot-black on the wharf. Then he

You have a great deal against you, Sidney, but you have only to remember that all together does not amount to anything unless you yield to it. You can surely conquer if you will, and I surely believe you will."

"I surely will!" Sidney cried, catching his hand and pressing it to his lips.

During his student life, which had only recently given him his degree, the ship's doctor had been a favorite pupil of the world-renowned Dr. von Opel, professor in one of the leading medical schools of Germany. Either to cure his protege's lameness or to teach him the mysteries of anatomy, no better man could be found. To him the ship's doctor sent Sidney, having provided him with a proper outfit, a crutch, what money he could spare and a letter of introduction to the greatest man who ever held a surgeon's knife.

"Life seems like one sad good-by," Sidney said, and his lip quivered, as he sat in the express, prepared for the journey.

"While you're climbing a ladder you'll never be able to take the rounds along with

When his work was over, however, and the assistants were straightening the foot and packing it, Dr. von Opel sank into an armchair, trembling as though he could never perform another operation in his life.

"His calmness was simply superhuman," the professor said to his wife. "His will-power is marvelous. I believe he will come out all right."

The next morning the professor reported of his little patient:

"He is doing wonderfully well. His quiet courage will either carry the day or kill him before we know it. He was so pale and still this morning that I thought he was dying, when he opened his eyes, and upon my word, asked if he might not begin to study medicine in bed."

A few days later he was berating "those outrageous nerves! They are enough to kill the boy, without any severed tendons requiring all his strength for recovery." There he stopped short, for he recalled the superhuman courage and calmness of those same nerves during the operation. To conclude, he simply muttered, "Joseph was right. As curious a combination as was ever covered by a human skin."

"If he had a body like other boys, what a wonder he would be," the professor's wife remarked, enthusiastically.

"I am not so sure of that," replied the professor. "I am more inclined to think that if other boys had his body they would be more like him. A blind man sees with his other senses because he must; but restore his eyes and the rest lose their power. We all have the power to say 'I will,' but we lack the courage to mean it. He has not a spark of vitality outside of his will, but he has a tremendous amount of courage to back it up, in an emergency, and an intense persistency of purpose to hold him up to the mark between whiles. For instance, he will never have the full use of that foot, he will never have complete control of his muscles unless he comes upon an emergency that calls out the will he showed during the operation; but in the meantime he will never give up. The more he has to contend with the harder he will fight. He will keep on plodding toward what he is aiming at, and when the heaviest blows fall on him he will make the biggest leaps forward. He has not a shadow of the chance which most boys have, but he has found out how to make use of courage and perseverance, and unless his body breaks down altogether on the way, they will eventually land him at the top of the ladder of fame."

The professor's wife listened to her husband's long explanation with perfect confidence in what he said, for she knew that it was the opinion of an expert.

In time Sidney was moving about again on crutches. So far as straightening the foot was concerned, the operation was a complete success. But the professor was correct; there was not vitality enough in the frail body to give it any strength. At the end of two years, when he finished the preliminary course and entered the medical department, he walked with a single cane, but any sudden nervous shock rendered the foot as weak and helpless as it was at first. The triumph was grand enough for the time, however, and he began the direct study of medicine with a heart so happy and full of hope that the little boot-black on the wharf in New York seemed only like some impossible dream to him.

At the beginning of his second year, however, a blacker cloud than any rose before him. He suddenly discovered that he was utterly unable to witness the sights of the dissecting-room, much less an actual operation. Again and again he threw himself into the dangerous surroundings with all the persistency of desperation, but with the first sight of blood or suffering his heart stood still and he was carried out unconscious.

"He will conquer in time, just as he will get over his other troubles," the professor said to his wife. "But it would not help him to tell him so. He knows it already."

Sidney bore the disappointment as he bore the operation, as he bore everything—just as the professor knew he would. When at last Dr. von Opel persuaded him that for the time he must give up taxing his strength with useless experiments, he simply replied:

"For the present you are right; it seems to be impossible. But some day, in some way, I will."

[To be continued.]

OPALS.

The prejudice against opals appears to be disappearing. Anyhow, they are popular. There are several varieties of opal, and therefore several degrees of merit. The precious, or noble, or oriental opal is the supreme. This has all the colors, and when these colors are broken into spangles it is then called the harlequin opal. Then comes the fire opal, or girasol, with hyacinth red and yellow reflection—the former comes from Hungary, the latter from Mexico.

The common or semi-opal are non-opalescent. The hyphane, or oculus mundi, is non-transparent, but becomes so by immersion in water or any transparent fluid. The cachalong is nearly opaque and of a bluish-white color. The hyalite is colorless, pellucid and white. The opal jasper, or wood opal, is the petrification of wood, opalescent, but without the coloring which makes the "noble" gem so precious.—*Lewiston Journal*.

THE LITTLE BOY THAT DIED.

JOSHUA D. ROBINSON.

I am all alone in my chamber now,
And the midnight hour is near,
And the faggots' crack and the clock's dull tick
Are the only sounds I hear;
And over my soul in its solitude
Sweet feelings of sadness glide,
And my heart and my eyes are full when I think
Of the little boy that died.

I went one night to my father's house—
Went home to the dear ones all,
And softly I opened the garden gate
And softly the door of the hall.
My mother came out to meet her son;
She kissed me, and then she sighed,
And her head fell on my neck, and she wept
For the little boy that died.

And when I gazed on his innocent face,
As still and cold he lay,
And thought what a lovely child he had been,
And how soon he must decay,
"O death, thou lovest the beautiful!"
In the woe of my spirit I cried,
For sparkled the eyes, and the forehead was fair
Of the little boy that died.

Again will I go to my father's house,
Go home to my dear ones all,
And sadly I'll open the garden gate,
And sadly the door of the hall;
I shall meet my mother, but nevermore
With her darling by her side;
And she'll kiss me and sigh, and weep again
For the little boy that died.

I shall miss him, when the flowers come,
In the garden where he played;
I shall miss him more by the fireside,
When the flowers have all decayed;
I shall see his toys and his empty chair,
And the horse he used to ride,
And they will speak, with silent speech,
Of the little boy that died.

I shall see his little sister again,
With her playmates about the door,
And I'll watch the children at their sports,
As I never did before;
And if in the group I see a child
That's dimpled and laughing-eyed,
I'll look to see if it may not be
The little boy that died.

We shall all go home to our Father's house—
To our Father's house in the skies,
Where the hope of our souls shall have no blight,
And our love no broken ties;
We shall roam on the banks of the River of Peace,
And bathe in its blissful tide;
And one of the joys of our heaven will be
The little boy that died.

And therefore, when I'm sitting alone
And the midnight hour is near,
And the faggots' crack and the clock's dull tick
Are the only sounds I hear,
Oh, sweet o'er my soul in its solitude
Are the feelings of sadness that glide,
Though my heart and my eyes are full when I think
Of the little boy that died.

A WOMAN HORTICULTURIST.

The name of a California woman is now added to the list of successful feminine horticulturists. This one is Mrs. Henry Barroilhet. She is the widow of a San Francisco banker, who gave up his entire fortune on the failure of his bank. At his death his wife set to work to supply flowers to the San Francisco markets, and she now owns one hundred and forty acres of land, all under cultivation. Seven acres are in orchards, and there is an immense violet bed, twenty acres in extent. There are seven acres of chrysanthemums; roses, lilies and other flowers divide a good many more acres between them. Two thousand eucalyptus-trees and three thousand pines, sequoias and other trees are very profitable, the branches and leaves serving for decorations.

Every day during their respective seasons, eight thousand chrysanthemums, two thousand bunches of violets and eight hundred to one thousand Duchesse de Brabant roses are shipped to the city. Hundreds of other flowers, of course, go with them in fragrant company, but the specialties are violets at \$2.50 per dozen bunches, and chrysanthemums at from one to five cents apiece. Last season there were eighteen thousand chrysanthemum plants in bloom, including two hundred and seventy-five of the finest Japanese varieties. When Mrs. Barroilhet was shipping two thousand bunches of violets daily she had only a five-acre bed. Since then she has enlarged it by fifteen acres, so that the number of bunches will be quadrupled.

This flower plantation is said to be a perfect Eden. The proprietress personally attends to every detail of irrigation, cultivation, gathering, packing and shipping. Her success demonstrates what a plucky and intelligent woman can do when thrown on her own resources.

The great fall in the price of wheat, cotton and all the things a farmer sells has not been met by a similar fall in the price of all the things he buys, but in some things even the farmers' reductions have been surpassed. Pianos and organs of the most excellent quality and beautiful finish are made and sold for half what they cost a few years ago; so farmers are not alone in their reductions. One of the oldest of the Piano and Organ makers—the reliable old Marchal & Smith Piano Co.—has kept step with the times and outdone even the farmer in the reduction of the prices of their beautiful instruments. If you want a piano or an organ write to The Marchal & Smith Piano Co., 235 East 21st Street, New York, or cut this out for future use.

ENGLISH THE WORLD-SPEECH.

The advocates of English as the universal language have received a coadjutor from an unexpected quarter. There recently appeared in the *Preussische Jahrbücher* an article from Dr. Schroer, advocating making the study of English obligatory in the schools. The reasons assigned for this are more interesting than the proposition itself. The need of a universal language has long been felt. The effort to introduce Volapük was a recognition of this, but Dr. Schroer condemns any attempt to construct an artificial world-speech. A language, he says, without historical development, literature or linguistic relations will not be studied by any considerable number of people until it becomes universal, and hence it cannot become universal at all. This means that if we are to have a universal language, it must be chosen from existing languages, and of course from the number of those that are widely diffused and spoken by great civilized nations.

Attempts to introduce artificial languages are not only hopeless, but they are unnecessary, for, says Dr. Schroer, there is already a universal language, and that is English. But in what sense is English a universal language? It is, says Dr. Schroer, one which, by its spread over the whole earth and by the ease with which it may be learned, has reached a position so far in advance of all others that neither natural nor artificial means can deprive it of its assured position as the future means of international intercourse. He therefore concludes that "the English language is the world-speech, and will, to all appearance, become more and more so every year."

This tribute to the English language is the more impressive because it emanates from one who has no bias in its favor from its being his mother tongue. The statements which he makes are fully borne out by facts. The language is spoken by the richest and most powerful commercial nation of Europe, in the greater part of North America, in the Sandwich Islands, India, South Africa and Australia. Since the beginning of the nineteenth century, the number of English-speaking people has grown from 25,000,000 to 125,000,000. There is no prospect of any check to the progress of this triumphant tongue. It may be added that the study of English gives access to incomparably the richest literature in the world. Its claims to the primacy are so eminent and evident that even foreigners acknowledge them. It affords a practical and easy way to the attainment of the great desideratum of a universal language.—*Louisville Courier-Journal*.

THE PHYSICAL STRAIN INVOLVED IN HIGH SPEEDS.

The exactness that modern railroad speed makes on the physical stamina of railroad men is demonstrated in the fact that seven engineers are required to take the Chicago flier out and seven back, says the *Boston Transcript*. The running time between New York and Chicago is twenty hours, and the average speed is forty-eight miles an hour. Each engineer and engineer runs three hours. Machine and man return with a slow train to their starting point, to relieve the strain on both. Then the engineer is given forty hours' rest before he goes on the flier again. This rest is absolute, no work of any kind being required of the engineer.

Though the average speed is forty-eight miles an hour, the locomotive must at some points be driven at sixty or more. The physical strain on the men in the cab at those bursts of speed is something terrible. The engineer has fifty things to look out for, and is being shaken and swayed all the time. The fireman is constantly feeding the insatiate furnace. On the run of the Empire State express, three tons of coal are shoveled from the tender into the furnace between New York and Albany. It is not wonderful that the engineers of this train are given alternate days for rest and recuperation. Fast travel not only wears out rails and machines, but human creatures' lives.

THE HOT BLAST-FURNACE THREE THOUSAND YEARS OLD.

"Is there anything new under the sun?" asks the *Railway Review*, and then adds, "Solomon was right." The more the past is explored the more evident this becomes. A prehistoric blast-furnace is the latest discovery. Prof. Flinders Petrie, in 1890, convinced himself that in a remarkable mound called Tel-el-Hes, in South Palestine, would be found the remains of what was one of the strangest places in the country down to the invasions of Sennacherib and Nebuchadnezzar. The explorations, said Mr. Bliss at the Palestine exploration fund meeting recently, have fully verified this forecast. Amid all the evidence discovered by Mr. Bliss of the civilization of that remote age—wine-presses, treacle-presses, alkali burnings and innumerable others—by far the most curious is the disclosure of an iron blast-furnace, arranged to give strong evidence of being intended to heat, in its descent, a blast of outside air forced through passages before entering the chamber at the level where twyers are usually found.

"If this theory be correct," says Mr. Bliss, "we find, fourteen hundred years before Christ, the use of the hot-air blast instead of cold air, which is called a modern improvement in iron manufacture due to Neilson, and patented in 1828."

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THE FARM AND FIRESIDE.

TABLEAUX.

"Tableaux vivants," or "living pictures," afford much pleasure and well repay their trouble. The following effective and easily executed ones may help our young readers to get them up. A raised platform or a good-sized, strong table, having some material drawn around it to hide the legs, will answer for a stage. A curtain must also be hung across, which can be caught or drawn back when each tableau is on view.

"The Flower of the Family" always takes well. The curtain rises, disclosing a flour-barrel on which is painted in large, showy letters, "FLOUR." After a pause of a few seconds, the front staves of the barrel, which have been loosened, are pushed aside, and a pretty child of four or five years, attired in quaint, fancy costume, steps out, and after gracefully saluting the audience, the curtain is drawn.

"Bedtime"—a connected tableau and pantomime in three scenes—is exceedingly pretty. The first is a young mother seated near the bed with her little three-year-old child in her lap all ready for bed. As the mother counts the little one's toes, a clear voice behind the curtain repeats the old nursery rhyme:

This big toe took a naughty boy, Sam,
Into the cupboard after jam;
This little toe said, "Oh, no, no!"
This little toe was anxious to go.
This little toe thought 'twasn't quite right,
This tiny little toe curled out of sight.

This big toe got suddenly stubbed,
This little toe got ruefully rubbed,
This little frightened toe cried out, "Bears!"
This little timid toe said, "Let's run up-stairs."
Down came the jar with a loud slam, slam,
This tiny little toe got all the jam.

In the second scene, the child kneels beside her mother with clasped hands, while in the background an angel hovers. The third scene discloses the child in bed asleep, one little arm tossed over the cover, her curls showing on the pillow, and the mother's arm resting lovingly over her as she bends to see that all is well. An angel with outstretched hands and wings hovers over the back. The lights are turned low, with only a dim glow on the stage, and the tableau is lovely. The angel is represented by a girl eight or nine years old, with a sheet draped about her, leaving neck and arms bare. Her face, neck, arms, shoulders and long, wavy hair are powdered a dead white, and she stands on a low step-ladder, also draped in white, she being higher and nearer the bed in the last scene than in the second. The wings are wire frames covered with paper. The bed is made by placing a broad board on four chairs. To the back of those intended for the head, a light frame is fastened, making it about fourteen inches higher than the foot. Both are then draped with sheets, making a very pretty little child's bed.

"Good-night" is pretty as a finale. The lights are turned very low as the curtain rises, disclosing a little girl in long, white night-dress, with bare feet peeping out beneath, her white nightcap scarce confining the pretty curls. In one arm she hugs her loved dolly, while in the other hand she holds a lighted candle. After a moment she sweetly bids the audience "good-night," and the curtain falls for the last time.

LET US BE REASONABLE.

Fifty years ago some good Whigs would not touch a "Jackson paper" except with the tongs, and the Democrat was not less intolerant of the Whigs. We laugh at them both to-day, and most of us, whatever our party feelings, are able to admit that neither Henry Clay and Daniel Webster on one side, nor General Jackson on the other, can be justly charged with plotting his country's ruin.

But are we really more reasonable than they were? What do you think, you who read this paragraph, of your political opponents? Do you think they are sincere and honest and patriotic, or base and malicious?

A senator, during the great silver debate, admitted that those who advocated free silver believed that it was right as sincerely as he believed it was wrong. He was roundly upbraided by some of his party associates at home as little better than a traitor.

On the other hand, no words are too strong to express the opinion of some silver men as to the selfishness and dishonesty of those who oppose free coinage.

Hawaii! The tariff! Are you able to believe that those who differ from you differ honestly? Or do you class them all together as unpatriotic and reckless? Let us blow off a little steam and cool down.

POINTED SAYINGS.

The proverbs of savage races are generally pointed and pithy. The Basutos say, "The thief catches himself;" the Yorubas, "He who injures another injures himself;" the Wolofs, "Before healing others, heal yourself." In Aera they say, "Nobody is twice a fool;" among the Oji, "The moon does not grow full in a day;" "The poor man has no friends." A Pashto proverb says, "A feather does not stick without gum." Others are: "A crab does not bring forth a bird;" "A razor cannot shave itself;" "Cross the river before you abuse the crocodile;" "Truth is spoken only by a strong man or a fool;" "Perseverance always triumphs;" "The thread follows the needle;" "Preparation is better than after-thought."

CALIFORNIA AND THE MID-WINTER FAIR.

A more favorable opportunity than the present to visit California will probably never be offered. The rates for excursion tickets, via the North-Western Line, are the lowest ever made, and aside from the delightful semi-tropical climate of California, the Mid-Winter Fair at San Francisco, which is now in the full tide of success, is a most potent attraction to the tourist and pleasure-seeker. The trip from Chicago to California is made via the North-Western Line in the marvelously short time of $3\frac{1}{2}$ days. Palace Drawing-room Sleeping-cars leave Chicago daily, and run through without change, and all meals en route are served in dining-cars. Daily Tourist Sleeping-car service is also maintained by this line between Chicago and San Francisco and Los Angeles, and every Thursday the party is personally conducted by an experienced excursion manager. Completely equipped berths in tourist sleepers are furnished at a cost of only \$6.00 each from Chicago to the Pacific Coast, thus enabling passengers to make the journey in a most comfortable and economical manner. The North-Western Line has issued a number of illustrated pamphlets descriptive of the Mid-Winter Fair, and also containing detailed information concerning rates, routes, etc., copies of which will be mailed free upon application to W. A. Thrall, General Passenger and Ticket Agent Chicago & North-Western R'y, Chicago, Ill., if you mention this publication.

GARDENING BY ELECTRICITY.

By the use of electric light the Hon. W. W. Rawson, of Arlington, Mass., claims that he makes a gain of five days in each of his three crops of lettuce—that is, two weeks in a season—that the gain on one crop pays all the expenses of the electric lighting for the season, thus giving him the gain on the other two for extra profit. His attention was first called to the usefulness of the light by the advance made in the growth at the ends of his greenhouses next the street and in the glare of the electric light. This was so marked that he introduced the light through his lettuce and cucumber houses. Dr. Bailey, of Cornell University, says as the result of his own experiments, that the influence of the light is greatly modified by the interposition of a glass roof. Plants injured by a naked light were benefited by the protected light. Five hours' light per night at a distance of twelve feet hastened maturity a week or ten days, but proved injurious to young plants and those newly transplanted.

Latest Styles in Hair Goods.
New illustrated catalogue sent free. Goods sent by mail everywhere. Best quality natural curly Bangs, in ordinary colors, from \$1.50 up. French Hair Switches from \$1.75 up. Second quality Switches from \$1.00 up. S. C. RECK, Importer and Manufacturer, 36 North Eighth Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

FREE by return mail, full descriptive circulars of MOODY'S NEW & MOODY'S IMPROVED TAILOR SYSTEM OF DRESS CUTTING. Revised to date. These, only, are the genuine MOODY TAILOR SYSTEMS. Beware of imitations. Any lady of ordinary intelligence can easily and quickly learn to cut and make any garment, in any style, to any measure, for ladies, men and children. Garments guaranteed to fit perfectly without trying on. The MOODY Tailor System Co., Cincinnati, O.

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"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in half-pound tins, by Grocers, labelled thus: JAMES EPPS & CO., LTD. Homeopathic Chemists, London, England.

No local dealer can compete with us

WALL PAPER

Our "Guide How to Paper and Economy in Home Decoration," mailed free with samples.

Beautiful Gold Paper, 5c. per Roll.

We carry the largest stock in the country, and can save you 50 per cent. on every roll of paper you buy. No matter where you live, if you have any use for wall paper, send 10c. to nearest address to pay postage on a large package of samples. One good agent or paper hanger wanted in each town to sell from sample books, price \$1.00.

ALFRED PEATS,

20-32 W. 18th St., 186-188 W. Madison St., CHICAGO.

POINTED SAYINGS.

The proverbs of savage races are generally pointed and pithy. The Basutos say, "The thief catches himself;" the Yorubas, "He who injures another injures himself;" the Wolofs, "Before healing others, heal yourself." In Aera they say, "Nobody is twice a fool;" among the Oji, "The moon does not grow full in a day;" "The poor man has no friends." A Pashto proverb says, "A feather does not stick without gum." Others are: "A crab does not bring forth a bird;" "A razor cannot shave itself;" "Cross the river before you abuse the crocodile;" "Truth is spoken only by a strong man or a fool;" "Perseverance always triumphs;" "The thread follows the needle;" "Preparation is better than after-thought."

FERRY'S SEEDS.

Ferry's Seed Annual for 1894 contains the sum and substance of the latest farming knowledge. Every planter should have it. Sent free.

D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich.

SALZER'S NORTHERN GROWN SEEDS ARE THE BEST!*

We are the largest growers of farm and vegetable seeds in the world. Wheat, Oats, Barley, Corn, Clover, Timothy, Grasses, Potatoes, etc., in enormous quantities. 1,000,000 Rose and Plants, 35 pkgs. earliest Vegetable seeds, enough for a garden, paid for \$1.00. 18 pkgs. late Vegetable seeds, 50c. Say, our Great Northern Oats yielded 216 bush. from one bush, sown! Did you ever hear the like? Pkg. of this Oats and catalogue free upon receipt of 8c in stamps. 10 Farm Seed samples, 10c. With catalogue, 15c. Our great catalogue, 130 pages, for 5c postage. Write to-day.

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THE LITTLE DARKEY and his love Dixey Watermelon

are fully illustrated in our unique and beautiful Seed Manual for 1894. If you are an up-to-date Gardener you should be familiar with its pages. It is free if you are a buyer of SEEDS.

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1838. NEW APPLE, PEAR AND NUT TREES 56 YEARS. 1894. 300 ACRES.

Starr, the largest early apple; Paragon, and other valuable sorts; Lincoln Corless, Seueca and Japan Golden Russet Pears in collections at reduced rates. NUTS—Parry's Giant, Pedigree, Manuoth, Paragon and other chestnuts. Walnuts—French, Persian, Japan, English and American. Pecans, Almonds and Filberts. Eleagnus Longipes, Hardy Oranges, Dwarf Rocky Mountain Cherries, free from insects, black knots or other diseases. SMALL FRUITS, Grape Vines, Currants, etc. SHADE TREES—Immense stock of Poplars and Maples, Ornamental Shrubs and Vines. Illustrated Descriptive Catalogue Free. POMONA NURSERIES.

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Wilson's 1894 SEED Catalogue PLANT, TREE and

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112 pages, handsome colored plates. Hundreds of natural illustrations. Full of useful information. All kinds of guaranteed Garden, Flower and Field Seeds. THE WORLD'S FAIR PREMIUM and other Productive Potatoes Specialties. Also all kinds of Choice Roses and Rare Flowering Plants. New and popular varieties of Small Fruits. Grape Vines. Fruit and Ornamental Trees. Thoroughbred Land and Water Fowls. Bronze Turkeys. Eggs for Hatching. Registered Pigs. German Hares, etc. Catalogues free on application. Address SAMUEL WILSON, MECHANICSVILLE, PA.

Human Machines

It has been said that the PLANET Jr. Labor Saving Farm Tools, are almost human in their operation; for example, the PLANET Jr. Hill Dropping Garden Drill, sows the seed, covers, rolls down and marks out the next row in one automatic operation. The PLANET Jr. Book for 1894 illustrates and describes 20 other machines of the same family. It is full of labor saving suggestions from cover to cover—a book worth reading and worth heeding. We send it free.

S. L. ALLEN & CO., 1107 Market St., Philadelphia.

TREES AND PLANTS.

UPON our 250 acres of nursery we have every class of hardy Trees and Plants; Fruit, Ornamental, Nut and Flowering. Mary and Henry Ward Beecher Strawberries and Lovett's Best Blackberry are among the most valuable novelties. In our catalogues named below (which are the most complete, comprehensive and elaborate published by any nursery establishment in the world) all are accurately described and offered at one-half the price of tree agents.

LOVETT'S GUIDE TO FRUIT CULTURE tells all about fruits, their merits and defects; how to plant, prune, cultivate, etc. Richly illustrated. Several colored plates. Price 10c.

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Established 40 years. We successfully ship to all parts of the World.

All who order either of the above and name this paper will receive an ounce of Flower Seeds free.

J. T. LOVETT & CO., LITTLE SILVER, N. J.

A VEGETABLE GARDEN FOR 50 cts.

There is profit in vegetable gardening if you grow the right kind of vegetables. The first essential is to get the right kind of seeds. Rawson's vegetable seeds are known to thousands, but perhaps not to you; we make this offer for the sake of better acquaintance. For 50c. we will send the following choice collection of vegetable seeds selected from our special market gardener's stock.

Rawson's Puritan Tomato, Rawson's Summer Cabbage, Rawson's White Spine Cucumber, Arlington Favorite Beet, Danvers Yellow Globe Onion, Imp. Danvers Carrot, B. Seed Tennisball Lettuce, Globe Scarlet Radish, Paris Golden Celery, Arlington Long Smooth Parsnip, Rawson's Sea Foam Cauliflower, Prolific Marrow Squash, Thick Leaf Spinach and Arlington Canteloupe Melon. With or without this collection we will send you free Rawson's Seed Book for 1894. It has been compiled with a special thought for the gardener's wants, and is full of practical hints from cover to cover.

W. W. RAWSON & CO., Boston, Mass.



50c. TRIAL SETS

of Choice Seeds and Plants.

Our object in offering thus cheap is to introduce our goods and secure your future orders. Please tell your neighbors about it.

Set U—2 Beautiful Palms, 2 sorts, strong plants 50c

" B—16 packets choice Vegetable Seeds, all different 50c

" E—20 packets choice Flower Seeds, all different 50c

" F—10 Lovely Carnation Pinks, 10 sorts 50c

" G—10 Prize Winning Chrysanthemums, 10 sorts 50c

" H—4 Superb French Cannas, 4 sorts 50c

" J—10 Elegant Everblooming Roses, 10 kinds 50c

" K—8 Grand Large Flowered Geraniums, 8 sorts 50c

" M—24 Fine Gladioli, large Flowering Bulbs 50c

" P—6 Hardy Ornamental Flowering Shrubs, 6 sorts 50c

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One-half each of any two of these sets 50c

Any 3 Sets for \$1.25, or 5 Sets for \$2.00,

Delivered at Your Postoffice Prepaid. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Order these sets by the letters. Send now from this advertisement, as these introductory sets do not appear in catalogue which contains 163 pages and will be sent free with first order. If none of these sets suit you, and you want anything in our line do not fail to send for it, free, as we want you to see our prices before ordering elsewhere. It is one of the best issued; contains hundreds of illustrations and full descriptions of one of the largest and most complete stocks in America, including many new, rare and valuable novelties. We grow 750,000 Roses yearly; many other things as largely. Are headquarters for the choicest

Trees, Shrubs, Vines, Roses, Bulbs, Plants, Seeds, etc.

40th YEAR. 1,000 ACRES. 28 GREENHOUSES. LAST CALL, ORDER NOW.

THE STORRS & HARRISON CO., Box H, Painesville, LAKE Ohio.

Our Household.

LADIES' BASQUE.

THIS style of basque will be found very generally becoming, as the full vest is well adapted to slight figures, while the pointed lower edge gives a tapering appearance to a rather stout waist, and the soft fall of the "Redfern" revers do not accentuate the width.

The model as here shown was of cornflower blue Henrietta-cloth, once more a favorite in the fashionable world, the full vest and collar being of black moire jaconne, showing a floral device.

The edges of revers, collar and cuffs are neatly finished with a jet cord.

The full vest can be omitted, if desired; the lining being smoothly covered and buttoned in the center, will give a stylish vest effect.

By the same method a smooth back can be substituted for the drawn one here shown, the pattern providing for both styles.

The ripple skirt can also be omitted, if desired, a pretty, short, pointed basque being the result.

Pattern cut in five sizes; namely, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches, bust measure.

LADIES' WAIST WITH RIPPLE TUNIC OPENING ON THE SIDE.

Pearl-gray crepon is here stylishly combined with satin of the same shade. The trimming is violet gimp, the design showing clearly where it is put on. Satin is used for the double puffs on the sleeves, collar, belt, short tunic, and the puffed trimming on the waist and wrists of sleeves.

This trimming consists of a bias band three and one half inches wide, gathered on both edges to form a puff. A single row of the gimp is sewn on both sides of the puff of satin.

This design will meet with merited approval from young ladies of good form, who favor waists having few seams, and concealed openings. The long tunic can be omitted if so desired, the short one alone giving the modish look to the waist.

The model is notably handsome in black velvet, with satin or moire, trimmed with jet passementerie. It is suitable for all kinds of fabrics, and is quite as effective when made of the material and trimmed with braid, jet, gimp or passementerie.

Pattern cut in five sizes; namely, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches, bust measure.

In order that the readers of the fashion columns of the FARM AND FIRESIDE may not only read about the latest styles and newest patterns, but have the patterns themselves, I have arranged to furnish patterns No. 4051 and No. 4052 for ten cents each. This is furnishing the patterns at cost, but I do it to accommodate our readers. Every pattern is cut according to the latest styles and designs and thoroughly



NO. 4051.—LADIES' WAIST WITH RIPPLE TUNIC.

complete and reliable in every way. Full and explicit directions for putting together the garment accompany each pattern. In ordering, give the number of the pattern wanted, also bust measure if for ladies, and age if for children, and send a silver dime or ten cents in new, clean stamps, and I will mail you the pattern, postage prepaid. I am sure that you will be delighted with

them, and agree with me that they are a great bargain. Address

EDITOR FASHION DEPARTMENT,
FARM AND FIRESIDE,
Springfield, Ohio.

HOME TOPICS.

FRITTERS.—Beat two eggs without separating, add to them one half pint of milk and about one and a half cupfuls of flour (some flour thickens more than other), and a half teaspoonful of salt. Beat this batter until it is perfectly smooth, then add one heaping teaspoonful of baking-powder. Drop the batter by spoonfuls into smoking hot fat; when brown on one side, turn and brown the other side. These are delicious eaten with maple syrup. Apple, orange and banana fritters are made by adding the fruit to this batter and frying the same as plain fritters.

The bananas should be peeled, cut into halves lengthwise, and then cut each half into two pieces. Dip each piece into the batter and fry a nice brown. Dust them with powdered sugar and serve hot.

Oranges should be peeled and sliced crosswise, the seeds removed, then each piece dipped in the batter and fried.

Cottolene is especially nice for frying, but if you use lard it is better to add to it about one eighth its bulk of beef suet. In frying anything it is of the greatest importance that the fat in which it is fried be just right. It must be deep enough

noble trees, and it is noted for the number and variety of trees within its limits.

The observance of Arbor Day in schools will be of lasting benefit. Teach the children the beauty and benefit of trees; let them have a part in the planting, and they will be interested in protecting what they have helped to plant, and the work will be carried on by them in future years.

In France and Germany thousands of miles of roads are shaded by trees. Not only are forest trees planted, but apple, pear and cherry trees also. One writer speaks of traveling for days through an almost continuous avenue of cherry-trees in going by a circuitous route from Strasburg to Munich.

A writer in the *American Garden*, a year or two ago told of his satisfaction with apple-trees as wayside trees. He had planted eight or ten different varieties, all of which were now in bearing, and were a financial success as well as unique beautifiers of the roadside.

"W. M. K.," well known to many readers of the FARM AND FIRESIDE, has told me how he plants trees which rarely fail to live and thrive. First, make a circle, not less than three feet across, where the tree is to be set. Throw out the top course to the full depth of the spade, putting it by itself. Then put the next course in another pile, and lastly the subsoil by itself in a third pile. In planting, put the sods first thrown out, grass side down, in

while cover the sides of the box with a strip of white crape smoothly drawn around, and fastened at a corner, allowing a good turn-over around the top and bottom. Cut of light cardboard a piece to fit the bottom, both for the inside and one for the outside; cover the one for the inside with a puffed piece of white crape, but do



NO. 4052.—LADIES' BASQUE.

not put it in until the sides are lined. To ornament the sides a piece of green crape two inches wide, pasted through the middle to form a quilling, and a cord of green and white pasted around with a knot in front to conceal the joining, makes a very pretty finish. When dry, by running your thumb across the quilling it will open out like a ruffle, if cut across the grain. This gives a more graceful appearance to the box. The side lining will be more easily adjusted if the pieces of crape are pasted to a piece of stiff paper cut to fit the interior of the box, and is much nicer if one strip can be made to line the four sides, joining in a corner; run the strip of crape slightly through the finger to puff it a little before pasting to the paper; now paste in the bottom. Sachet-powder put between the layers of the bottom is quite an addition. The lid should be pasted securely to the box, and dried before the side and bottom linings are fit in. Finish the top with a cord of the two colors put on in any manner to suit the taste. A bow of crape or a bunch of flowers can be added; but the checkered top is very pretty just finished with a cord. Your box is now complete, and I am sure you will feel repaid for your trouble, and be satisfied that you have an article that you can present to either a gentleman or lady that will be very acceptable and useful.

MARY E. SMITH.

ABOUT THE HOUSE.

After the spring house cleaning every housekeeper likes to make some new addition to the house in the way of decoration or comfort.

If you intend it to be a chair this year, for a resting-place, the illustration we give in willow, with the addition of cushions on the seat and back, with the evening paper waiting in the pocket, would certainly be a most inviting place to come to.

Beside it might set a daintily-appointed tea-table for two, all ready, with the lamp lighted under the tea-kettle for tea or drip coffee, whichever is preferred.

These can be bought cheaper now than at any time for years—in prices varying from \$2.50 to \$5. The one in the engraving for \$4. They are of copper or brass, and with care should last a lifetime.

A good coffee-pot is a much-desired article. Some housekeepers use a coffee-pot for years. Why not try a new one once in awhile? With this one you will not be bothered with it boiling over, or of having the grounds discolor the pot itself.

It has the advantage also of being able to use the coffee as we can have it ground at any store. So few grocers are willing to keep pulverized coffee, and one must always have the express charges added to the price of the coffee when sending away for it.

The new linen made this month for various parts of the house can be neatly initialed in white floss, giving it a more distinctive character.

The "throw" herein illustrated is made of very thin veiling, with flowers of yellow and white felt with brown centers, the white ones all on one end and the yellow ones on the other; narrow, green baby ribbon attach them. When it is hung the veiling is almost invisible.

The addition of a new picture, or new curtains even, serve very much to brighten up and improve the whole home surroundings.

LOUISE LONG CHRISTIE.

WHEN THE MUCOUS SURFACES of the Bronchia are sore and inflamed, Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant will afford prompt relief. For breaking up a Cold or subduing a Cough, you will find in it a certain remedy.

INITIALS FOR MARKING LINEN.

to completely immerse the article to be fried, and hot enough to cook the outside quickly, so it will not absorb the fat and become greasy. A piece of white bread may be used to test the fat. If it browns while you count twenty-five, the fat is hot enough for doughnuts; if you can only count twenty while it browns, it is right for croquettes and fritters. The fat should be strained after using and put away for use again.

PLANT TREES.—Dr. Holmes has said, "I have written many verses, but the best poems I have produced are the trees I planted on the hillside which overlooks the broad meadows, scalloped and rounded at their edges by loops of the sinuous Housatonic."

The observance of Arbor Day and the work of village improvement societies has done much during the last twelve or fourteen years to beautify school grounds, roadsides and public parks, but there is still room for effort in this direction. Hundreds of country school-houses stand to-day without a tree to cast its welcome shade over the little group of children who daily assemble there. And thousands of miles of public highway stretch their length between two fences, nothing more. Not a tree to give shade to man or beast.

In the matter of tree-planting, as in other things, an object lesson is an efficient teacher. A number of years ago a lover of trees near New England village planted them along the highway passing his farm. His neighbors, stimulated by his example, did the same. The idea spread, and to-day that village is reached through avenues of

the bottom of the hole. Use enough of the best soil to raise the tree to the proper height. Place the tree, letting it lean a trifle toward the point from which the strongest winds blow. Straighten the roots of the tree carefully and put the finest, richest soil next to the roots. Tread the fine soil down carefully as it is thrown in, and see that the roots are spread horizontally as the filling proceeds. Complete the work by throwing on the subsoil, which will serve to some extent as a mulch. Every few weeks during the summer mulch the trees with freshly-cut grass, and they will very rarely fail to grow.

MAIDA MCL.

HANDKERCHIEF-BOX.

For this useful and ornamental article, select a good, strong pasteboard box the desired size and shape, tear off the side pieces of the lid, and cut of light-weight cardboard a piece the same size; cover this with a piece of white crape-paper, puffed slightly by running it through the fingers, for the lining of the lid. The outer side is covered with strips of green and white crape cut two inches wide, pasted alternately along one edge, and woven back and forth in basket-work, until the top looks like a chess-board; it is necessary to paste the edges of the stripes only. Now cut a stripe of linen two inches wide, and almost as long as the side of the lid that you wish the hinge on, crease the linen through the center, and paste one half securely and smoothly to the lid; the inner lid can now be pasted to the top, and the whole put under a press to dry. Mean-

HOW TO WRITE SOCIETY NOTES.

It has been said that a crucial test of the early advantages—almost “the” crucial test, especially in the case of a woman—is note-writing.

Letter-writers of quiet and refined taste will choose good, black ink and heavy, white paper of hand-made finish. The envelopes should be rich in quality, but perfectly plain. The address may be stamped at the head of each sheet with dark red, blue or silver, in small, clear Roman lettering. It gives a stylish finish to the sheet, and is simple, elegant and useful. Another very good fashion is to have the address enameled in colors or silver on the upper left-hand corner or across the flap of the envelop. This is for the benefit of postal officials, who may by this means be enabled to return the letter at once if not called for.

How any one can be allured into confiding their thoughts to flowered paper, or paper with corner pieces, garlands and arabesque borders is past understanding. A young girl once brought to me for correction a formal society note written on cheap, ruled paper with the design of a lurid green star fastened to an impossible hook in one corner of the sheet. In the center of the star was a blazing green lighthouse, an emblem very beautiful to the girl, because her father was in the shipping business. In contrast, was the note of a lady whose ancestors traced their genealogy back to the Danish invasion of England. It was written on rich, white paper, and at the head of the sheet was stamped a cup, a Plantagenet rose and three fleurs-de-lis, together with the motto, “God is our help.” This emblazonment modestly

In wedding announcements the hour and church are left out.

Mr. and Mrs. James Harrison announce the marriage of their daughter to

Mr. William Alexander
Monday, October the eleventh
Eighteen hundred and ninety-three
Buffalo, N. Y.

At Home
Thursday, November third
from three to six and seven to ten
510 Delaware Avenue

Another announcement card is simply:

Married
Mr. Henry James Copeland
Miss Emily Eustaphieve Windsor
Thursday, November the ninth
Eighteen hundred and ninety-three
Trinity Church
New York

When dinner or luncheon invitations are engraved, a space may be left on the card for the name of the guest to be written. When ladies write their own invitations, the formula should be:

Mrs. Sydney Howard
requests the pleasure of the company of
Mr. and Mrs. James Fitzgerald
on Thursday evening, June the twenty-sixth
at nine o'clock.

The favor of an answer is requested.

Mrs. Henry Lee Morris
Luncheon
Tuesday, February the eleventh
from two until four o'clock
No. 516 Delaware Avenue

The best form for a general invitation is:

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Hayes
request the pleasure of your company
Wednesday evening, December seventh
at nine o'clock
147 North Street.

THROW OF THIN VEILING.

covered a space not as large as the petal of a violet, and suggested the history of her family for a thousand years.

A society note should be dainty in appearance and perfectly correct in style. A finger-mark, a misspelled word, or any lack of courtesy and good breeding will subject the writer to unpleasant remarks, if not to scorn and derision.

Invitations should be engraved in elegant, round script, without flourishes. The faint angular script is still used, but is not much in favor. All names and dates are written in full, and also the words “Avenue” and “Street.” Punctuation is omitted unless required to make the meaning clear. A wedding invitation is worded:

A very common error is that of sending a written invitation worded:

Mr. and Mrs. Hare
request the pleasure of
your company

This is admissible on engraved cards, where it would be inconvenient to have a separate card engraved for each guest, but on written invitations it is discourteous, not to say wildly ignorant and improper.

For afternoon teas and receptions, “At Home” cards are used, with the day and hour engraved or written in the lower left-hand corner.

Mrs. Walter T. Wilson.
Mrs. Samuel Ames.

At Home

Thursday, November seventeenth
From four until six 285 Summer Street
and eight until eleven

The word “ball” may be used for a public affair, but a lady never invites you to a “ball” at her own house. The invitation should read:

Mrs. Herbert Taylor
requests the pleasure of the company of
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Cotes
on Friday evening, November seventh
at nine o'clock

Dancing The favor of an answer is requested

A young lady should never send an invitation in her own name. Even young men who wish to give an “At Home” must have the name of a lady chaperon on their cards, as follows:

Mrs. John B. Manning,
Edward C. Manning, Harry M. Root.
At Home
Saturday, January fourteenth
four until eight 259 West Utica Street

In reply to notes of invitation, never send a card with the word “regrets” or “accepts” written on it, unless you wish to insult your hostess. Send simply your card without penciling, or write a courteous note.

Mr. and Mrs. St. Cyr
request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Cymbeline
to
Arthur Stuart Lauterdale
Wednesday, June the twenty-first
Eighteen hundred and ninety-three
at seven o'clock
Church of the Ascension
New York

In wedding announcements the hour and church are left out.

Mr. and Mrs. James Harrison
announce the marriage of their daughter
to

Mr. William Alexander
Monday, October the eleventh
Eighteen hundred and ninety-three
Buffalo, N. Y.

At Home
Thursday, November third
from three to six and seven to ten
510 Delaware Avenue

Another announcement card is simply:

Married
Mr. Henry James Copeland
Miss Emily Eustaphieve Windsor
Thursday, November the ninth
Eighteen hundred and ninety-three
Trinity Church
New York

When dinner or luncheon invitations are engraved, a space may be left on the card for the name of the guest to be written. When ladies write their own invitations, the formula should be:

Mrs. Sydney Howard
requests the pleasure of the company of
Mr. and Mrs. James Fitzgerald
on Thursday evening, June the twenty-sixth
at nine o'clock.

The favor of an answer is requested.

Mrs. Henry Lee Morris
Luncheon
Tuesday, February the eleventh
from two until four o'clock
No. 516 Delaware Avenue

The best form for a general invitation is:

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Hayes
request the pleasure of your company
Wednesday evening, December seventh
at nine o'clock
147 North Street.

The best form for a general invitation is:

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Hayes
request the pleasure of your company
Wednesday evening, December seventh
at nine o'clock
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The best form for a general invitation is:

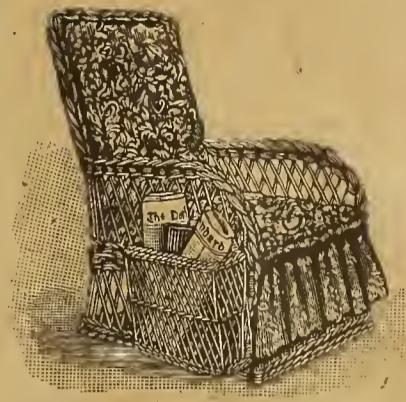
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Hayes
request the pleasure of your company
Wednesday evening, December seventh
at nine o'clock
147 North Street.

The best form for a general invitation is:

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Hayes
request the pleasure of your company
Wednesday evening, December seventh
at nine o'clock
147 North Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore
have pleasure in accepting
the polite invitation of
Mr. and Mrs. Bonnet
for dinner on Wednesday, at seven o'clock
Or,

Miss Alice Lord
regrets that a previous engagement
deprives her of the pleasure of accepting
the kind invitation of
Mrs. John Champlain
for dinner on Friday evening, at seven o'clock



WILLOW CHAIR.

In replying to an invitation, address the one who invites you. Never “avail” yourself of an invitation and never use the word “decline.” In refusing an invitation it is always courteous to give an excuse, if possible.

A pretty, informal note of invitation runs:

MY DEAR MISS CLEMENTS,
If disengaged, will
you come to luncheon with us on Saturday
next, at two o'clock?

Yours sincerely,

HARRIET SMITH.
December the fourteenth.

In reply, Miss Clements writes:

MY DEAR MRS. SMITH,
I have much pleasure
in accepting your kind invitation for Saturday. Believe me,

Yours cordially,

ANNE CLEMENTS.
December the fifteenth.

An informal invitation to dinner is written as follows:

MONDAY

MY DEAR MISS BROWN,
We are to have a small
dinner party on Saturday, December the
second. Will you give us the pleasure of your
company? We dine at seven.

Very sincerely yours,

JANE WOOD.

Miss Brown writes:

AT HOME
MY DEAR MRS. WOOD,
I shall be pleased to
accept your kind invitation to dinner on Saturday, December the second.

Yours sincerely,

KATHERINE BROWN.
November the twenty-first.

To write, “Dear Mrs. Wood, I will be pleased to accept your kind invitation,” would show both ignorance and lack of good breeding.

Very playful and informal were those little notes sent between Lady Dufferin and the poet Rogers:

“Mr. Rogers—Will you dine with me on Wednesday?”

“Lady Dufferin—Won’t I?”

FRANCES BENNETT CALLAWAY.

CONTRIBUTED RECIPES.

LEMON CRACKERS.—

3 cupfuls of sugar,
1 cupful of lard,
1 pint of sweet milk,
4 eggs, whites of, well beaten,
3 teaspoonfuls of lemon,

2 teaspoonfuls of baking-powder,
1½ ounces of bakers’ ammonia.

Mix well and roll thin. Cut in squares, prick with a fork and bake in a hot oven a light brown.

HERMITS.—

2 cupfuls of sugar,
1 cupful of butter,
1 cupful of raisins, chopped fine,
1 cupful of nut-pits, chopped,
½ cupful of sour cream,

2 eggs,
1 teaspoonful of soda,

1 teaspoonful of cinnamon, allspice

and nutmeg.

Roll thin and bake in a quick oven.

MRS. DORA M.

HOW’S THIS!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall’s Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENY & CO., Props., Toledo, Ohio.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.

West & Truax, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Walding, Kinnar & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists,

Toledo, Ohio.

Hall’s Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting di-

rectly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price, 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free.

THIS IS IT:

the De Long

Hook & Eye

Richardson &

DeLong Bros.

Philadelphia.

See that

hump?

Trade-Mark Reg., April 19-92.

Our Household.

THE MIDDLE-AGED TROUSSEAU.

Et the ladies who begin to read this article are inclined to literary criticism, they at once make fun of the title. They say it reminds them of those ambiguous sentences giveu for correction in our old rhetoric lessons. For instance, "The lady was sewing with a Roman nose," or "I saw two men digging a well with straw hats." My merry critics will say that they do not wish middle-aged clothes in their trousseaux, but very young clothes; in fact, only clothes that are brand new. The defense allowable for my title is its brevity. It is shorter than "Trousseaux for Middle-aged Ladies." "Oh!" exclaim the prospective brides of nineteen, twenty or twenty-five years, "if that is what you mean it does not concern us!" No, my dear girls, pass on to another column; but before you go, let me tell you that love is just as sweet and graceful to the middle-aged as to the youthful. Hearts are like trees—there is more sap in a young one, but more fire in the old.

In spite of those statistics which show that after thirty a woman's chances to marry are very few, one by one the mature maidens are courted and wedded, till a spinster of sixty is a rare bird indeed. Middle-aged women generally marry well and justify the proverb that "there is luck in leisure." The only thing that can make ridiculous the bride of forty is to see her assume the dress of a girl of sweet sixteen.

Without repeatedly referring to age, let us suppose that we have in mind women from forty to forty-five. A blonde at this age does not look badly faded if she has preserved her disposition. The charm of blonde beauty is never the brilliancy which results from contrast, but the delicacy which is found in harmony. This is not seriously impaired at the age of which we speak. Black garments enhance the porcelain tints of a young blonde face, but later the black needs to be relieved. Black with pearl-gray stripes, black with figures of dull yellow-brown, or black with touches of red will be very becoming. Some of the "changeable" silks now in vogue are just the thing for middle-aged blondes. Olive-green, tending to yellow, will suit them. Light, warm browns are equally good. A brunette at forty-five has either become quite gray-haired, or her coloring has simply faded from intense brown to a brown which has lost its freshness. The gray-haired brunette is handsome. Her eyes are either gray or piercing black. This grayness of the hair is a hint from nature. It means, wear dresses of the same tint. Some ladies are annoyed that their hair does not become uniformly gray, or instead of being a clear white it takes on a yellowish tinge. Before attempting to remedy these defects, consult a physician, for it will never pay to sacrifice your health to your vanity, and many ointments recommended by unknowing persons are injurious. Concerning every physical imperfection (apart from health) the best plan is to accept it and make the best of the situation. The gray-haired woman need not repine. She can make herself beautiful. Gray hair may be dressed with curls or waved front, and arranged according to the most stylish fashion. At present the mode of 1830 is revived, and being so picturesque we welcome it. The "part" which a poet has likeued to

"A moonbeam from forehead to crown,"

Is a pleasing novelty after the long reign of "bangs." The hair at the sides, above the ears, is curled quite elaborately, and then the back hair is piled high in a knot and surmounted by a tall comb.

Gray dresses of all kinds suit the gray-haired brunette. There are iron-grays, silver-grays and pearl-grays. A positive touch of blue or a vivid dash of scarlet can be effectively managed to give accent to these costumes, but no rule can be giveu for these embellishuents. A fine taste will place them correctly.

The faded brown woman remains to be considered, and to tell the truth, her case is the most difficult. She cannot wear gray at all, and black brings out all her wrinkles. Her most fortunate selections will be in brown. Leaf-brown, gold-brown and ecru will supply a range of tints which will afford good results. These all admit of a few bright touches of scarlet. She can also wear a dull red dress, and if

she gets precisely the right pink it will wake the sleeping roses in her cheeks.

The best dress to be worn during the marriage ceremony is a suit which is appropriate for traveling or on the promenade. It is not necessary for the bride of forty-five to array herself in a white satin gown with veil and orange-blossoms.

Two or three well-made suits, with two pretty house dresses, a few waists, and

ing the right to sell in her own city, and the dolls that had before sold by the dozen, now sell by the hundred dozen.

In less than a year the lady had in her employ over a hundred girls, and her paper girls and boys, priests and nuns, babies and nurse-girls sell in every city in the United States.

"Where do you get the patterns for the dresses?" I asked, when visiting her estab-

lishment, looking at the boxes and boxes that were brought in for my inspection.

"Oh, I just think of them," was the reply.

The principal characteristics of the dolls are their perfect naturalness and daintiness. The babies look as if they might laugh and cry, the little girls are just like the genuine article, and even the nuns have the exact number of beads on their rosaries.

The dolls are all made of the best material, and the newest styles of dress are caught and followed as exactly as in any daintily-dressed wuss of six or seven.

LILLIE C. FLINT.

CANDIED LEMON PEEL.

To prepare candied lemon peel, take twelve thick-skinned lemons, loaf sugar, four pounds, a little powdered alum, and water, four

cupfuls. Cut the peel from the lemons in long, thin strips and lay in strong salt and water over night. In the morning boil them until tender, in soft water, and they appear almost transparent, but not so soft as to break. Dissolve half a teaspoonful of powdered alum in enough water to cover the peel, and let it remain in it for two hours. In the meantime prepare the syrup by stirring the sugar into three cupfuls of water, with the strained juice of three lemons, and boil until it "ropes" from the end of a spoon. Put the lemon peels in this and simmer for half an hour. Take out and spread on a sieve, and shake gently, tossing up the peels until almost dry. Now sift granulated sugar over them, spread on a clean cloth, and

hats for different occasions, will complete an outfit that is not extravagant, yet equal to all demands. To err on the side of being too plain is safer than an approach to ostentation. The dresses to be worn exclusively at home may be gayer than the others. In the eyes of a new husband his bride is charming. He will not make critical remarks. His wife will not seem old to him. If the honeymoon is during the months of the dawning year, a bridegroom, even if past middle age, will feel what Emerson expressed in his beautiful poem:

Spring still makes spring in the mind,
When sixty years are told;
Loves wakes anew this throbbing heart,
And we are never old.
Over the winter glaciers
I see the summer glow,
And through the wild-piled snow-drift,
The warm rosebuds below.

K. K.

HOUSE GOWNS.

One's street dresses preserve their freshness much longer if they are removed when coming in the house, as sitting about in them, and often lying down for a little rest, will put creases in them very hard to remove. A less expensive house gown is a great saving to better dresses.

The cut we give is of a plain material, trimmed with figured goods. The plain princess back and full front gives it more the appearance of a dress than a wrapper, and by the addition of ribbons it can be given a very dressy appearance. A soft, red material is very pretty in its effect, and is becoming to old and young.

L. L. C.

PAPER DOLLS.

We have all seen the beautiful paper dolls that are found in nearly all of our book and toy stores, so dainty and delicate that they look like fairy creations. They are essentially woman's work, and nearly all the work of one woman, who had tried selling books, painting, teaching, and failed in each.

She thought that the paper dolls, that had amused her sisters and their little friends, might amuse other little people. With fifty cents' worth of tissue-paper, a few fancy heads and a bottle of mucilage as her only capital, she began work.

The first dozen were taken at a bookstore in her native city, where they attracted the attention of the agent of one of the largest novelty stores in New York City. He inquired the name of the manufacturer, visited the lady and made her an offer for the exclusive sale of all the dolls that she could supply.

The lady made her bargain, only reserv-

when perfectly dry, pack in a glass jar. Fresh citrons may be candied by the same method.

A piece of string makes a simple barometer. Take a piece of string about fifteen inches long, saturated in a strong solution of salt and water, let it dry, and then tie a light weight on one end and hang it up against the wall and mark where the weight reaches to. The weight rises for wet weather and falls for fine. The string should be placed where the outside air can freely get to it.

AN OHIO MIRACLE.

THE REMARKABLE STORY OF AN OLD LADY WHO HAS BEEN AFFLICTED WITH PARALYSIS FOR MANY YEARS.

COMPLETELY HELPLESS—BEYOND THE HOPE OF MEDICAL AID—RELIEVED AT LAST IN A MARVELOUS MANNER.

(From the Toledo Blade.)

In a neat little home in Farmer, Ohio, live the Rev. Silas S. Hyde and his wife. The two are now close to the seventy-seventh mile-stone and have been married fifty-two years.

For over twenty-five years Mrs. Hyde has been practically a home-tied invalid. During the earlier years of her illness a succession of fevers and other ailments, peculiar to women, led up to a stroke of paralysis which occurred about ten years ago. At this time the dread disease laid hold of her left side and was what is called wasting or creeping paralysis. The seven years which followed its first appearance were marked by a steady aggregation of the powers of the disease and were full of misery. Three years ago it culminated in attacking her right side in the same way, and there was little hope at the time of her surviving the second shock. Different physicians were employed, but were unable to alleviate her sufferings. In addition to her former sickness paralysis is inherited—both her mother and her grandmother having been carried away by it.

Rev. Mr. Hyde, in response to the inquiry of a reporter, said: "It is ten years since Mrs. Hyde was first attacked with paralysis, and about three years ago she had a second shock. From that time on, for two years, she was practically helpless. The disease left her in such a condition that it was necessary to exclude the visits of our neighbors. The least excitement was too great for her. Physicians whom we consulted gave no hope, and medicine which we used appeared to do no good. About one year ago, in a paper of one of our cities, I noticed an advertisement of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and sent for some of them. Two or three weeks after she first began taking the pills I noticed a decided improvement. From being absolutely helpless she gained sufficient strength to be up and about the house, and to perform some of the lighter duties of the household. Steadily she has gained a little in strength. She is now able to see her friends and neighbors as of old, and, on pleasant days, able to be out. At the time Mrs. Hyde commenced taking the medicine, her mind was failing, but the pills have checked that tendency and her mind now appears as bright and active as it ever was.

"The wasting process in paralysis is accompanied by most severe pains and cramps which occur at intervals and cause terrible suffering. Since Mrs. Hyde began taking Dr. Williams' medicine, about one year ago, these symptoms, with their moments of excruciating pain, have disappeared. Mrs. Hyde's left side was paralyzed first, but she is now able to walk about and use her left arm more than her right."

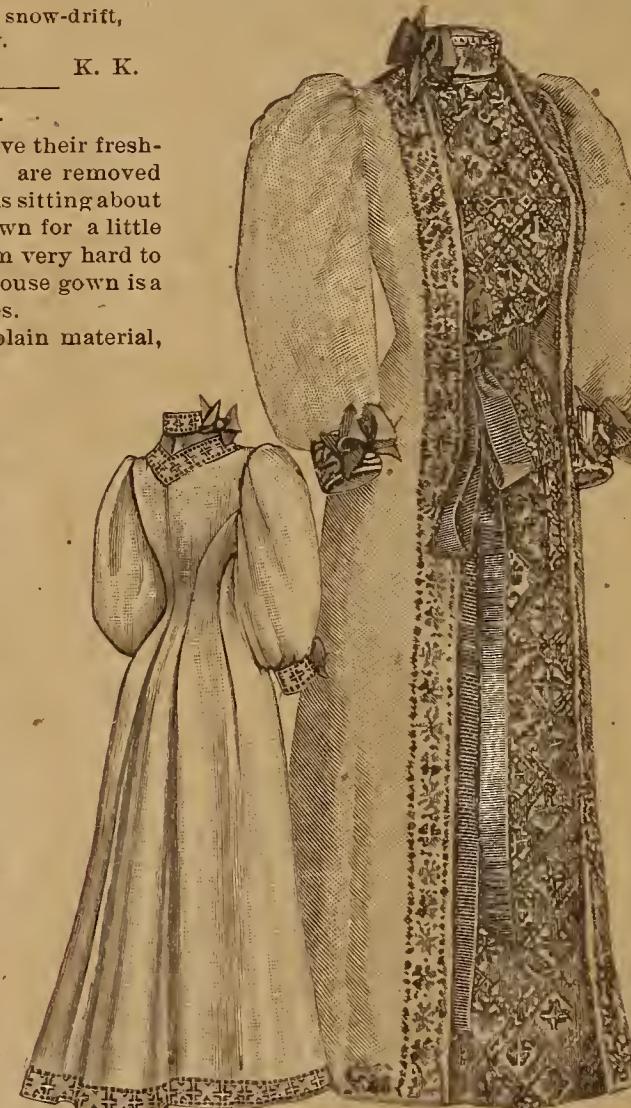
At this point in the conversation Mrs. Hyde entered the room. In spite of her years of illness she is a very fine looking, bright old lady. "Yes," she said, "I want to corroborate what my husband has said in relation to my case, and to say further, that before taking the medicine I was quite deaf, but am able now to hear much better. It has also strengthened my eyesight; has restored my appetite which I had almost entirely lost; and last, but not least, I can sleep, which I could not do before taking these pills. I am surprised that anything could accomplish so much."

"Yes," said her companion, "that's it. If the few years that remain to her or us can be made reasonably free from pain, and she permitted to retain her mind, it is a great deal. While I should not like to be quoted extravagantly, I am willing to give Dr. Williams' medicine the credit due; and what we have said seems to me quite a sufficient recommendation for others, and we do our duty only in saying this."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effect of la grippe, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexions, all forms of weakness either in male or female, and all diseases resulting from vitiated humors in the blood. Pink Pills are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price (50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50—they are never sold in bulk or by the 100), by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y., or Brockville, Ontario.



PAPER DOLLS.



HOUSE DRESS.

FLORICULTURE and KITCHEN GARDENING.

DESIRABLE HARDY SHRUBS.

Ornamental shrubs are necessary for best effects when one is in a location likely to be permanent. Shrubs supply a form and character of bloom not attainable with herbaceous plants. *Hydrangea Paniculata grandiflora*, described elsewhere in this issue, is one of the best of our flowering shrubs. The *Althea* is another of great value, particularly if trained by judicious pruning in desirable forms. The best varieties are the double pink and double white. Then we have the varieties of *spiraea*, of which *Van Houttei* is one of the best, bearing large, white flowers in great profusion. For permanent effects, nothing is more striking on a lawn than the varieties of the hardy magnolias. Of course, they will be quite good size before they will bloom in any profusion, but they are handsome in habit of growth, clean and in every way desirable. *Conspicua*, pure white, and *Soulangeana*, white and purple, are the best varieties. These must not be confounded with the famous southern magnolia variety, *grandiflora*, for unfortunately we of the North cannot enjoy this sort, as it is rarely seen north of Richmond, Va., though we have seen single specimens blooming under favored conditions on Long Island, N. Y.

Those who are familiar with the old-fashioned snowball will acknowledge its beauty, though its habits of growth were not all that could be desired. In the improved variety Japan snowball (*Viburnum Plicatum*), we have a sort that should find a home on every lawn in the country. In habit it is compact and not at all spreading, the chief objection to the old form. The foliage is light green during the summer, turning darker as the season advances, and requiring quite a severe frost to cause its fall from the bush. The following description from an authority covers the ground better than any language we could use, hence we quote: "The leaves are in pairs along the stem, and from the base of each leaf a ball of flowers appears. There are often as many as ten pairs of these, or twenty balls, on a branch eighteen inches long. These balls, as they expand, all face upward, so that a full view of their great beauty is always to be had."

The flowers are from four to six inches across. The shrub begins to bloom early, until at four or five years after planting its profuse bloom is worth seeing. We have a specimen on our grounds on which we have counted not less than a hundred perfect blooms at one time.

In the use of shrubs it will be found a good plan to group them, rather than to dot them here and there over the lawn. *Altheas*, *Weigalias*, *Cydonia Japonica*, *Forsythia* and *Cornus Masculata* group well together. A group of *Hydrangea Paniculata grandiflora* by itself is most attractive, while magnolias should be separate specimens. Good judgment must be used that a wide expanse of lawn and unobstructed view are not sacrificed to a display of shrubbery.

GOOD PLANTS FOR SUMMER BLOOM.

The varieties of *hydrangea*, the Japanese class, are most desirable plants for late spring and early summer bloom. They are easily grown, and in a climate such as is enjoyed in the middle states may be planted in the open ground, where they can remain year after year with but a slight winter protection. If grown in pots, they can readily be wintered in the cellar without giving them any care from fall to spring other than an occasional watering.

Otaksa is one of the best of this class of *hydrangeas*. It begins blooming when

very young, and is most lavish with its immense trusses of rosy pink.

Thomas Hogg is very similar in all respects, except that it is pure white in color.

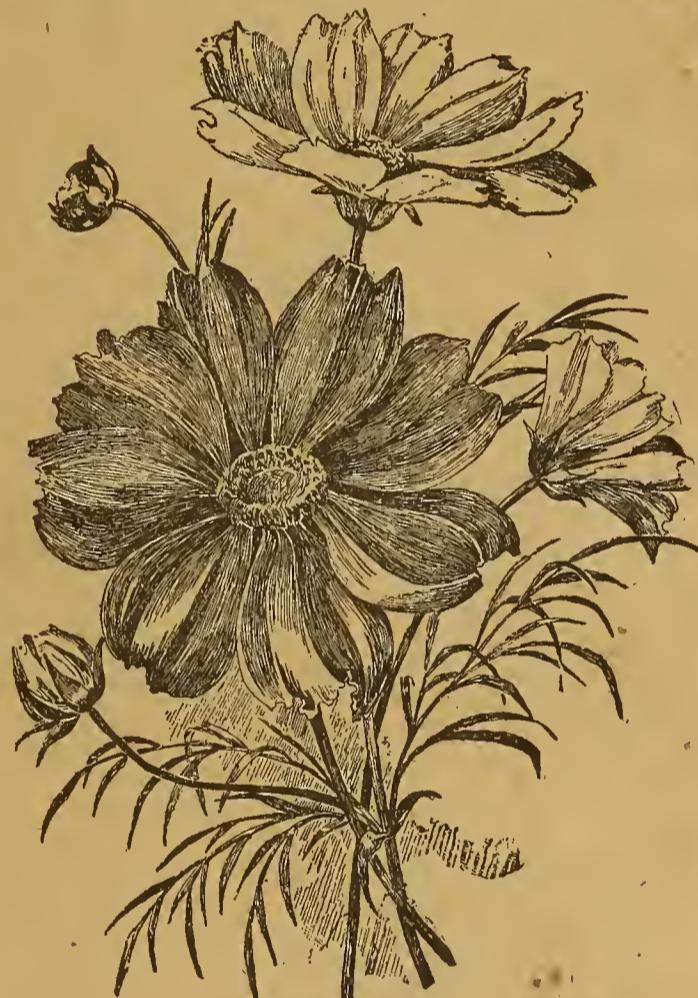
Impatrice Eugenia is a variety which succeeds well on some soils, and where it does well bears large, pinkish-blue flowers.

Hydrangea Paniculata grandiflora is known as the shrub *hydrangea*, and is without a rival as a hardy blooming shrub for the garden. Begins to bloom when quite young and grows from four to six feet high and correspondingly wide. Its panicles of flowers are pure white when first they appear, but change to a pretty shade of pink, deeper at the base than at the point, as the season advances. Most profuse in bloom, and worthy a place in every garden. Entirely hardy in the United States.

THE BEAUTIFUL COSMOS.

Among our late summer or early fall blooming annuals none are more popular than *Cosmos*, types of which are shown in our illustration. Seed should be sown this month in shallow pans or boxes, transplanting the young plants to the open ground after the weather is thoroughly settled. The blossoms are borne in graceful clusters and in great profusion. The colors, or shades of color, are clear and distinct, the most popular and desirable being the shades of pink and white.

Cosmos may be grown in pots, if desired,



COSMOS.

and as they are late fall bloomers, the pots may be taken into the house on the approach of frost, when they will continue blooming for some weeks. If desired, young plants of *Cosmos* may be purchased already for planting, thus avoiding the trouble of raising them from seed.

ARRANGEMENT OF BEDDING PLANTS.

Whether your beds of plants are a success or a failure this year will depend largely on the taste displayed in arrangement. By this is meant not only the proper grouping of plants of one kind, but the harmonious arrangement of color and shades of color, as well as the placing of the plants according to their height at maturity. This is readily seen to be most important, as the following will show: Supposing we have two lots of canna-plants, one a variety of the old Indian Shot type, which grows to a height of seven to ten feet; the other of the Crozy type, dwarfs rarely growing over four and a half feet high. The arrangement of a bed or border, it matters not what its shape may be, with these two sorts would be very attractive, provided the dwarf sorts were used in the foreground. To reverse the arrangement would, of course, completely hide the nice dwarf plants and make the bed an absurdity, instead of a thing of beauty it would otherwise be. Of course, this is an extreme case, but the same law should apply with all plants, the varieties of which vary materially in their habit of growth as to height.

With *coleus*, for example, many—in fact, the majority—of the sorts grow about alike, and may therefore be grouped in any desired way if the shades of color are harmonious. In an oval or round bed we may use *Verschaffeltii*, crimson, and *Golden Bedder*, yellow, together, with one as a border for the other. But in using *Hero*, a variety almost black, with *Golden Bedder*, it would be necessary to make the border of the latter sort, using *Hero* for the body of the bed. Of course, two such varieties could be used in the reverse by mounding the bed higher in the center, so as to build up with soil to the required height.

Now, a word as to harmony of color: This is one of the most important parts of attractive gardening. It is, of course, well known that certain shades of one color clash with certain shades of another color, hence so-called mixed beds are not, as a rule, satisfactory. The shades of color by themselves are more or less attractive, but in conjunction with other shades are positively hideous.

The best way to avoid any incongruity in this regard is to buy varieties by name and color and usually avoid mixtures. Of course, this does not always follow, for our seedsmen, as a rule, have their mixtures all that are desirable. In the mixture of nasturtiums, *Thunbergias*, sweet-peas and some other plants grown from seed sown in the open ground, we rarely find any clashing of colors, but as a rule we would advise the purchase of kinds by their variety name, or at least by color, to produce the desired effects in bedding.

GLOXINIAS.

One of the finest of our summer-blooming plants. The flowers are somewhat like a morning-glory in shape, but many of them larger, and most beautifully marked. The prevailing colors are crimson, scarlet, rose, white and violet, many of them handsomely speckled. To obtain the best results with *gloxinias* a light, rich soil should be used in the pots, and the plants have a shady situation.

Gloxinias may be raised from seed sown now in shallow pans in a warm room, and the seedlings carefully transplanted to other pans or pots when two inches high.

VEGETABLE NOTES.

After all, for general table use we have found Improved White Spine and *Nichol's Medium Green* cucumbers better than any of the newer varieties. The white spine is, perhaps, the best for early, but for medium and for pickles the *Nichol's Medium Green* will be found very satisfactory.

The readers of this paper have read more or less of the excellencies of the onion, "Prizetaker." We find it in the New York markets to be one of the best for sale, the retail demand being very large. The beauty of the bulb, together with its size, attracts the housekeeper, and when brought upon the table its exceedingly mild and delicate flavor makes her a friend of the variety for all time. Occasionally we hear reports adverse to its keeping qualities, but with ordinary care we have had no more trouble keeping it than other varieties. Give it a place in the kitchen garden this year. It is worthy of it.

For a succession of really good table and canning varieties of tomatoes, those which have passed the "novelty" stage, we will make no mistake by having *Mikado*, *Pondosa*, *Trophy*, *Perfection* and *Acme*. There may be some objection to *Trophy* as a "run-out" sort, but like the *Wilson strawberry*, if we get good plants of it from selected seed, it will be found still in the front rank. We have grown *Trophys* from seed saved from perfect specimens, which sold in the market over any of the other sorts named above.

The *Gordon Wax* bean is another of the good old sorts which should have a place in the kitchen garden. The "men-folks" may laugh at us for being "old-fogeyish," and will point with pride to their new sorts in the field, but they'll eat their share of the *Gordon Wax* every time.

We tried the *Electric beet* last season for the first time; soil, sandy loam. We found it all that was claimed for it in color, sweetness and flavor when grown strictly as an *early* sort. It is as early as the earliest *Egyptian*, but when sown for a medium crop, if not harvested early, it was, with us, a total failure; coarse and pithy.



A Class in Grammar.

TEACHER:—"Now, my boy, we have learned that 'watch' is a noun, and also that it is in the neuter gender; can you tell me what case it is in?"

TOMMY [son of a leading jeweller]:—"Yes, sir, if it is a rattling good watch it would be in a Fahys Monarch Gold Filled Case!" Tommy was right.

Fahys cases are as handsome and durable as solid

gold and cost much less. They are guaranteed to wear 21 years. Look out for this name and trade mark on every case. Send for free pamphlet "From A to Z of a Watch Case."

Fahys Joseph Fahys & Co., MONARCH 41 Maiden Lane, New York.



R. H. SHUMWAY, ROCKFORD, - ILLINOIS.

Mention this paper.

Lovely Flowers Given Away.

To introduce my **SEEDS** and **BULBS**, I will mail **2 New Excelsior Pearl Tuberoses**; **1 Orange-Flowered Tuberoses**—a rare novelty, sure to bloom early; **3 Gladioli Bulbs**—lovely spikes, all colors; **1 pkt. mixed Sweet Peas**, over 20 sorts, every color; **1 pkt. World's Columbian Pansy mixd.**, lovely colors; **1 pkt. Fringed Phlox** mixd. colors, and a wonderfully attractive flower; **1 pink Marguerite Carnation**, gives elegant flowers in four months from seed; **1 pkt. Golden Gate Poppy**, nothing makes a grander show; **1 pkt. mixed Flower Seed**, over 100 kinds, that will grow and bloom freely. The above choice Seeds and Bulbs are selling for \$1.00, but as I have grown 100,000 collections simply to introduce my Seeds and Bulbs, will mail the complete lot nicely packed for only 25 cents, to pay postage, packing, etc. They will bloom this season and make a great display. Order at once before all are taken.

F. B. MILLS, Box 250, Rose Hill, N.Y.

Mention this paper.



for 1894. It tells you how to get the famous **D. & C. Roses** on their own roots; gives the very latest and best information for the culture of all kinds of flowers. We send it free to anyone, together with a sample copy of our interesting floral Magazine

SUCCESS WITH FLOWERS.

THE DINGEE & CONARD CO.

Rose Growers and Seedsmen, West Grove, Pa.

OUR NEW 1894 FLOWER SEED OFFER.

A Magnificent Collection of **FLOWER SEEDS**

200 Varieties, FREE!

An Unparalleled Offer by an Old and Reliable Publishing House! **THE LADIES' WORLD** is a large 32-page, 80-column illustrated Magazine for ladies and the family circle. It is devoted to stories, poems, ladies' fancy work, home decoration, housekeeping, fashions, hygiene, juvenile reading, etiquette, etc. To introduce this charming ladies' paper into 100,000 homes where it is not already taken, we now make the following colored offer: Upon receipt of only **12 Cents** in silver or stamps, we will send **The Ladies' World** for three months and to each subscriber we will also send **Free and postpaid, a large and magnificent Collection of Choice Flower Seeds, 200 varieties**, including **Pansies, Verbenas, Chrysanthemums, Aster, Phlox Drummondii, Balsam, Cypress Vine, Stocks, Digitalis, Double Zinnia, Pinka, etc.** etc. Remember twelve cents pays for the magazine three months and this entire magnificent Collection of Choice Flower Seeds, put up by a first-class Seed House and warranted fresh and reliable. No lady can afford to miss this wonderful opportunity. We guarantee every subscriber many times the value of money sent and will refund your money and make you a present of flower seeds and Magazine if you are not satisfied. Do not confide this offer with the catchany schemes of unscrupulous persons. Write to-day. Don't put it off! Six subscriptions and six Seed Collections sent for 60 cents.

SPECIAL OFFER! To any lady sending us 12 cents for above offer, and naming the paper in which she saw this advertisement, we will send free, in addition to all the above, one packet of the celebrated **Marguerite Carnation** (half-dwarf variety), the only Carnation that will bloom from seed the first season. It produces in great abundance, large, exquisitely fragrant flowers of the most brilliant hues, in the various shades of white, red, pink and variegated, fully 80 per cent being double. Plants begin to bloom in four months after planting, and continue in great profusion until frost comes. This packet of seeds is alone worth the price charged for the entire combination.

ANOTHER GREAT OFFER! Upon receipt of **Thirty-five Cents** (our regular subscription price) we will send **The Ladies' World** for **One Year**, together with our magnificent Collection of Choice Flower Seeds above described, likewise one packet of the extensively advertised and popular **Marguerite Carnation**. Address: **S. H. MOORE & CO., 27 Park Place, New York.**

Our Sunday Afternoon.

WHEN MY SHIP COMES IN.

Away in the sea, oh, I wonder where,
Somewhere, somewhere in the water blue,
Where the winds are soft and the skies are
fair,

In a mystic country no man ever knew,
My ship rides safe in a dreary calm;
Perhaps by an isle where the lotus grows,
Perhaps by an isle of the spreading palm,
Perhaps—who knows? Ah, yes, who knows?
But her cargo is safe where'er she be,

And her crew will tire of the lazy life,
And her prow will cut a course through the
sea

Some day, I know, like a gleaming knife.
But oh, as I patiently sit and wait,
It seems so long to me, so long
She lingers outside the harbor-gate,
And her sailors list to the mermaid's song.
But the ships come in, and I'll yet see her
In time that is long or time that is short;
Although, forsooth, she seem to prefer
The sunny isles to the grimy port.

—Carl Smith, in Harper's Weekly.

THREE PAIRS OF SHOES.

HERE they are, in a neat little row under the mantel in the children's bedroom. A pair of twelves, a pair of nines, and a tiny pair of fives, belonging to the baby. They are all more or less wrinkled and worn, and the pair of twelves have holes in the toes, which caused me to say a little while ago to the sturdy wearer of them, that there was "no sense in his kicking out shoes like that," and if he was not more careful he would just have to go barefooted. He heard me with the utmost indifference, as I know from the fact that the threat was hardly out of my mouth when he asked me if I knew whose little boy he would have been if I had never been born.

"You might have been the little boy of some papa who couldn't have bought any shoes at all," I said reproachfully.

"Oh, well," he said calmly, in the fullness and beauty of his childish faith, "God has millions and millions of shoes, and I could just ask him for a pair whenever I wanted them. Don't you see, papa?"

Three pairs of shoes! Three pairs of tender little feet upon the untried border of life's mysterious land. I sit and look at the little shoes, wondering where the feet that wear them will be led in the time to come—the little feet that

Through long years
Must wander on 'mid hopes and fears.

How much I would give to know the future, that I might stand between them and the temptations so sure to assail them, that I might guide them from pain and sorrow, if I could! There is something strangely appealing and half pathetic to every father and mother in the sight of a row of little shoes I see before me now. They arouse the tenderest instincts of one's nature. I don't know why.

The wearers of the little shoes may have been very fretful or mischievous or trying all day. You may have been "all out of patience" with them. You may have whipped the little hands, or put the rebellious little ones to bed, declaring that they were "worrying the life out of you." But they are not worrying you now, and you are going about picking up a little stocking here and a little skirt there, with nothing but tenderness in your heart toward them. You think only of how precious the wearers of the little clothes are, and there is no melody on earth one half so sweet to you as the music of the baby voices as they knelt around you a little while ago, saying, "God bless mamma and papa, and keep us all safely through the night." You will hear no sweeter music than that this side of paradise.

You reproach yourself for lack of tenderness and patience as you look at that little row of shoes, and sometimes you fall to thinking if the wearer of any one pair of the little shoes would wear them no more—if you should awaken some morning, as heartbroken fathers and mothers have sometimes awakened, and find that the wearer of the little shoes had gone from you in the night, to wear the garments that wax not old.

Three pairs of little shoes! There are tears in your eyes as you look at them now, and perhaps you steal softly to the bedsides of the little sleepers to make sure that they are sleeping sweetly and safely, and to touch their little hands or their cool, moist brows with your lips, your heart filled with tender memories, with hopes and fears, with unspoken prayers. Three

pairs of little shoes! Three little pilgrims just setting out on a voyage of life, their frail barks as yet untroubled and unharmed by adverse winds and waves, God bring them all to port.—*Detroit Free Press*.

PUFFED UP, BUILT UP.

St. Paul declares that "knowledge puffeth up, but charity (love) edifieth." "Puffed" means blown, as of a bladder. How many of us are blown up, instead of being built up—puffed, not edified?

"Knowledge puffeth up." That is, knowledge without love, mere head knowledge. Things divine cannot be known by the head alone. The head and heart must unite in the study of God and of his truth. Indeed, God is cognized by the soul only through love.

The reason why "knowledge puffeth up" is that all things connected with the mind of man are carnal, without love. The reason why love edifieth is that love is of God and God is love. Even faith must "work by love" in order to edify the soul, or build up the church. Many men are sent to college and to the theological seminary, and then ordained to the Christian ministry, who never accomplish anything in the way of building up the kingdom of God. They are puffed up with knowledge "through their fleshly minds." They preach about the kingdom, but they cannot preach the kingdom of God, for they know nothing about it as they ought to know.

Read the thirteenth chapter of first Corinthians. How insignificant is everything by the side of love. Love "is not puffed up." Charity never fails, knowledge shall vanish, prophecies shall fail, tongues shall cease, but love being of the very essence of the divine nature lives forever. "Follow after love."

FILIAL DISOBEDIENCE.

Dr. Adam Clarke, when a boy, one day disobeyed his mother, and the disobedience was accompanied with some look or gesture that indicated an undervaluing of her authority. This was a high affront.

She immediately took up the Bible and opened on these words, which she read and commented on in a most solemn manner: "The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it." (Proverbs 30:17.)

The poor culprit was cut to the heart, believing the words had been sent immediately from Heaven. He went out into the fields with a troubled spirit, and was musing on this terrible denunciation of divine displeasure, when the hoarse croak of a raven sounded to his conscience an alarm more dreadful than the cry of fire at midnight. He looked up, and soon perceived this most ominous bird, and actually supposing it to be the raven of which the text spoke, coming to pick out his eyes, he clapped his hands on them, and with the utmost speed and trepidation ran toward the house as fast as his alarm and perturbation would admit, that he might escape the impending vengeance.

THE FIRST SCRIPTURES.

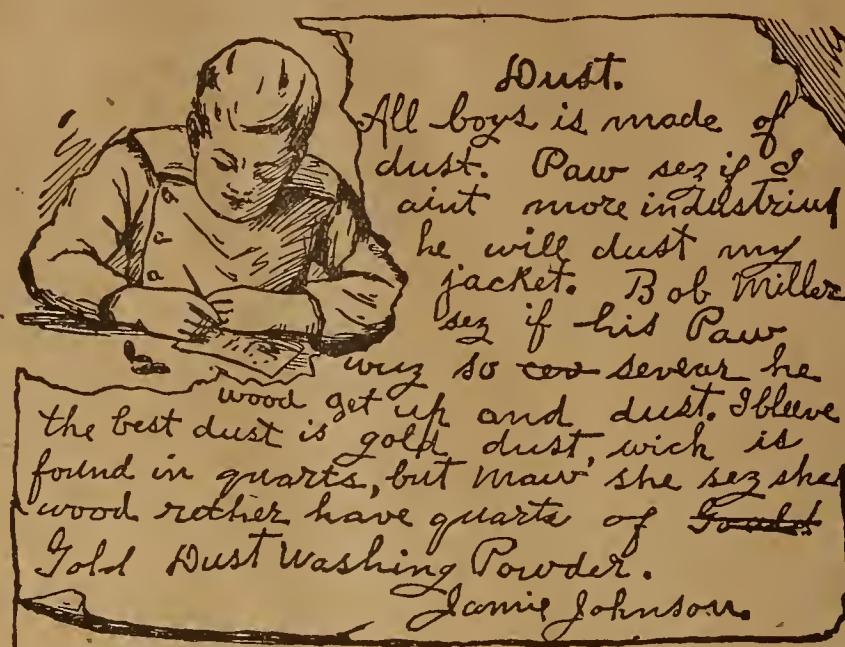
The Scriptures were first written on skins, linen cloth or papyrus and rolled up as we roll engravings. The Old Testament was written in the old Hebrew character—an offshoot of the old Phoenician. It was a symbol language as written, having no vowels. The consonants only were written and the vowel sounds supplied by the voice. The words ran together in a continuous line. After the Hebrew became a dead language, vowels were supplied to preserve usage, which was passing away. After the Babylonish captivity, the written Hebrew was modified by the Aramaic, and schools of reading taught the accent and emphasis. Then came the separation of words from each other, then division into verses.—*St. Louis Republic*.

AN IDEAL MINISTRY.

What is an ideal ministry? What is consecration in the ministry? It involves personal religious experience. Every minister is supposed to be born again. The minister is supposed to have the constant and clear witness of the Spirit, the assurance of his sonship. He is expected to be holy, to know by experience what it is to be crucified with Christ, and alive unto God wholly. In all these things, however, he is on the plane of the life of the church, the leader up to the heights, but with the flock on the same plane. This life can be maintained only by much earnest prayer and divine fellowship, by earnest communion with the divine word, and much holy meditation. A consecrated ministry involves still more.

MISS RAE'S LIBERAL OFFER.

Editor:—Please inform your readers that I will send a beautiful waltz song entitled "Oh, Bird of Joy" regular price \$1.00, and several other pieces choice sheet music with a sample copy of a musical magazine to any reader who will send me two stamps for mailing, and the address of two or three friends who are interested in music. Miss Viola H. Rae, P. O. Box 1729, Boston, Mass.



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We now offer for the next sixty days this elegant Oxford High Arm Improved Singer sewing machine—perfectly reliable, finely finished, adapted to light and heavy work, self-threading Cylinder Shuttle, Self Setting Needle, complete set of the latest Steel Attachments, cabinet work best of walnut or oak, each machine warranted for ten years, safe delivery guaranteed and will sell a few at this extremely low price, \$14, freight prepaid, or will ship machine on thirty days' trial, subject to approval and examination for \$15. When cash in full accompanies order for one of these machines if it is not satisfactory in every respect, do the work any family sewing machine can do, we bind ourselves upon the return of machine to refund all money. Where can you buy on better terms? Do not let this opportunity of a life time pass if you are in need of a first class sewing machine. Cut this out and send it to us to-day with your order. Our large catalogue, showing the machines awarded Premium Medal at the World's Fair, Chicago, sent free to any address.

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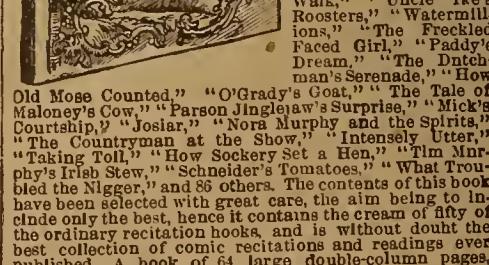
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This is an entirely new book, just published, and it contains one hundred and ten of the very best humorous recitations, as recited by the most famous reciters of the day. These embrace recitations in the Negro, Yankee, Irish and Dutch dialects, both in prose and verse, as well as humorous compositions of every kind and character. Among its contents are: "The Sib of Faith," "The Dutchman's Mistake," "The Courting," "Mygol Snyder's Party," "De Cake Walk," "Uncle Ike's Roosters," "Watermelons," "The Freckled Girl," "Paddy's Dream," "The Dutchman's Serenade," "How Old Mose Counted," "O'Grady's Goat," "Parson Jingle's Surprise," "Mick's Courtship," "Josiah," "Nora Murphy and the Spirits," "The Countryman at the Show," "Intense Utter," "Taking Toll," "How Sockery Set a Hen," "Tim Murphy's Irish Stew," "Schneider's Tomatoes," "What Troubled the Nigger," and 88 others. The contents of this book have been selected with great care, the aim being to include only the best, hence it contains the cream of fifty of the ordinary recitation books, and is without doubt the best collection of comic recitations and readings ever published. A book of 64 large double-column pages, neatly bound in attractive paper covers. It will be sent by mail post-paid upon receipt of only Ten Cents for a three months subscription to COMFORT, Box 2185, Augusta, Maine.



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Dr. Thompson's Eye-Water

Our Miscellany.

THE Court of Honor is now a study in white and black.

EDISON claims that women make better electricians than men.

FAILURES are with heroic minds the stepping-stones to success.—*Halliburton*.

DON'T bathe inflamed eyes with cold water; that which is as warm as it can be borne is better.

PARIS has an insurance company that refuses to insure the life of any one who uses hair-dye.

LIGHT without heat is the now engrossing problem which men of science are confident the near future will solve.

"THIS taxin' incomes ain't the thing to do to make the country rich," said Uncle Silas. "They'd oughter tax expenditures. People'd spend less'n and save more then."—*Harper's Bazar*.

CHEAPEST LANDS IN THE WORLD

considering the quick cultivation, varied productions of high quality, and practically no time from the great markets of Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, etc., are in the famous fruit belt of Michigan, along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan. A populated region with schools, churches, railroads, steamboat lines, telegraphs. Millions of people to buy all fruit, vegetables, garden truck as fast as it grows, and transportation ready, quick and cheap enough to get it to them. \$5 to \$20 per acre. Write to B. F. Popple, G. E. Agt. C. & W. M. R'y, 375 B'way, New York, or West Mich. Land Co., Muskegon, Mich. Mention this paper.

THE GREAT DESERT.

The greater part of the desert of Sahara is, it has been ascertained, from 6,000 to 8,000 feet above the level of the ocean. The desert is not rainless, but showers cover it with grass for a few weeks every year, large flocks and herds being maintained upon its borders, and the oases are depressions in which water can be collected and stored. It was at one time believed that the whole of the desert was below the sea-level, instead of only a comparatively small part of it.

CALIFORNIA EXCURSIONS.

The well-known Phillips Excursion Company has arranged to run bi-weekly excursions to all principal California and other Pacific Coast cities, from all points on the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railway, via St. Louis, Kansas City and Denver.

The parties will be carried in Pullman tourist cars leaving Parkersburg 2:00 A. M., Cincinnati 8:25 A. M., Thursday, January 25th, February 8th and 22d, March 8th and 22d, and passengers will be booked through to destination. There are no Pacific Coast tours offering so good accommodations at less expense.

For full information address A. Phillips & Co., S. E. Corner Fourth and Vine Streets, Cincinnati, Ohio, or call on nearest ticket agent of the B. & O. S. W. R'y.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.

Well-known minister (after midnight)—"Who's there?"

Man on the outside—"I represent the Morning Trombone. Did you close your service with the benediction, as usual?"

This is an actual occurrence.—*Minneapolis Times*.

DO YOU HAVE ASTHMA?

If you do, you will be glad to hear that the Kola plant, found on the Congo river, West Africa, is reported a positive cure for the disease. The Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, have such faith in this new discovery, that they are sending out free by mail, large trial cases of Kola Compound to all sufferers from Asthma, who send their name and address on a postal card. Write to them.

COURTESY IN HOLLAND.

In Holland a woman is a secondary consideration—and a poor consideration at that. No Dutch gentleman when walking on the sidewalk will move out of his way for a lady. The latter invariably turns out, no matter how muddy and dangerous the street.

FREE TO INVALID LADIES.

A lady who suffered for years with uterine troubles, displaces, leucorrhœa and other irregularities, found a safe and simple home treatment that completely cured her, without the aid of physicians. She will send it free with full instructions how to use it to any suffering woman who will send her name and address to MRS. REV. A. M. TURNER, South Bend, Ind.

CORK AS A POLISHER.

A clean cork is a valuable polisher used with powder or oil for such things as andirons, rods, tools, hinges, etc. For removing spots from marble, it is better than a cloth in applying pumice or rotten stone.

WOULDN'T A SALARY COME HANDY?

See advertisement of a "Chance to earn money," on page 19, if you want a position.

EDUCATION Is a much better safeguard of liberty than is a standing army.—*Edward Everett*.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Ailments, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 320 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Coal-oil Spilled

On a carpet need not distress a housewife, for if she will wait in patience for perhaps a week, or sometimes a little more, it will entirely disappear without having anything done to it. Having the doors or windows open will, however, help to hasten the evaporation.

A Moth-proof Material

For sofa-pillows is the Japanese shifu. It is made in pale blue, soft green with golden threads, and reddish yellow. It is really a thin tapestry cloth in which several tints are woven.

A WONDERFUL ANNOUNCEMENT.

\$8.95 buys a \$15.00 Road Cart; \$36.00 a \$75.00 Top Carriage. Easiest terms ever offered. For particulars send this notice to SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ills.

THE first duty toward children is to make them happy. If you have not made them happy, you have wronged them; no other good they may get can make up for that.—*Charles Buxton*.

THE Corean does not have the trouble of carrying his umbrella in his hand. It is like an ordinary umbrella in shape, only it is smaller and has no handle. It is made of oiled paper, and is worn on the head over the hat.

BEST OPPORTUNITY

Ever offered to make money by investing in a tract of 15,400 acres of land. Write for particulars. W. A. Wood, Victoria, Texas.

HUMBLE we must be, if to heaven we go; High is the roof there, but the gate is low.

—Herbert.

IT'S deep mystery—the way the heart of man turns to one woman out of all the rest he's seen in the world, and makes it easier for him to work seven years for her, like Jacob did for Rachel, sooner than have any other woman for th' asking.—*George Eliot*.

FREE TO INVALID LADIES.

A safe, simple home treatment that cured me after years of suffering with female troubles, etc., sent free to ladies with full instructions how to use it. Address, Mrs. D. L. ORME, South Bend, Ind.

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To reduce our stock of Music we will send by mail, post-paid, 70 pieces full sheet-music size, all parts complete, including Marguerite, Man in the Moon, Mary and John, All Marches, Waltzes, Quadrilles, etc., all for 20c. Satisfaction given or money back. Read this: Mr. H.—Am very much pleased with the music sent me; it is worth 10 times the money. R. J. Allen, Hoosick, N. H. After the Ball, and 100 Songs with music, 5c. F. F. Hathaway, 339 Wash. St., Boston, Mass.

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\$9. Top Buggy	\$2.50
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\$5.25 and \$10. same as for \$7.	\$10 and \$18
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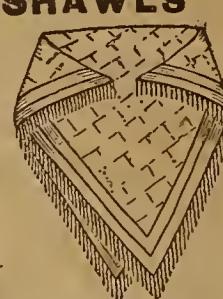


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FROM NEBRASKA.—We can raise nearly all kinds of grain and grass. Alfalfa does well and is grown in many places. Hogs and cattle fatten on it without grain. We have sod houses yet, though there are a great many frame buildings going up. The sod school-houses will soon be a thing of the past. We are building some good school-houses and churches.

F. J.

Faunton, Neb.

FROM GEORGIA.—I am an adopted citizen of northern Georgia. I came here from Jersey seven years ago. I have a good farm on the mineral belt which runs through the state. Nearly all the minerals are found here, gold, silver, copper, iron, etc. The soil is an average one for all kinds of grain, vegetables, cotton, etc. The country is well timbered and watered. Climate and health are good. Improved lands sell at \$15 to \$25 an acre; unimproved, \$5.

J. H. V.

Macoupin, Ga.

FROM ALABAMA.—I read with much interest Joseph's reply to a young railroad man who had \$1,500 or \$1,800 and wanted to go to farming. The advice was about this: "Stay where you are. Stick to the thing that you understand, and from which you are securing a certain support." I would not call in question the advice. Probably that was the proper thing to say. But I want to say, if the young man wants to farm, he ought to come to Alabama. The ninety or hundred acre farm he wanted would cost him from \$5 to \$10 an acre, according to location. He can work the year round, have good health, and raise nearly everything that grows. Good people are welcomed by our folks. We need them, and they need our lands which are unoccupied.

Montgomery, Ala.

W. B. C.

FROM MISSOURI.—Southern Missouri contains many thousands of acres of government land subject to homestead entry. Any person desiring to know where the land is, can do so from the United States land office, Springfield, Mo. There are many better countries than southern Missouri, but not for the poor man seeking a home. I simply give my observation and experience. I took a homestead of eighty acres of nice land; not rich, it is true, neither is it poor, but I can make a living on it, and the best of all, I can be independent. This country is rough, and in many places very rocky. It lies in the mountain region of the Ozarks, is well watered, and geologists speak of this country being rich in minerals; but it will take capital to develop these hidden treasures. The soil produces well under favorable circumstances, and is especially adapted to fruit culture.

C. C. H.

Geraldine, Mo.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—No other state has as great variety of soils and climate as California. As to health, here on the Sacramento river we have some chills and fever. But from the peaks of the coast range of mountains to the ocean on the west, and to the edge of the Sacramento valley on the east, the country is very healthful. My favorite location is the beautiful Capay valley of Yolo county. This valley is one to two miles wide and twenty miles long. Cash creek runs through it. This valley, until six years ago, was a wheat belt. Now the large farms are being subdivided into small tracts for fruit ranches. Prices vary, owing to location and quality of land. The Southern Pacific railroad runs the entire length of the valley. The foothill land adjoining the valley is considered the best fruit land in the state, and is offered at \$8 and upward per acre. Most of

the valley land is offered on five years' time, at seven per cent at \$50 an acre and upwards. Here are special inducements to those blessed with \$2,000 to \$5,000. The upper half of this valley has received six car-loads of fruit-trees this year.

H. S. T.

Guinda, Yolo county, Cal.

FROM KANSAS.—The land within a radius of one hundred miles of Kansas City is a limestone soil of the finest quality. It produces all kinds of grains, grasses, fruits and vegetables. With good land, good water, an abundance of building material, a good climate, good health, and one of the best markets in the United States we naturally feel well fixed. The city now has a population of about 200,000, is metropolitan in all its appointments, is the largest distributing point for agricultural implements in the world, is second only to Chicago in stock and meat packing, and very near as a grain market. The commercial and manufacturing interests are large and constantly increasing. The farms near the city are small; gardening, fruit growing and dairying occupy most of them. Land is cheap, considering all the advantages—from \$50 to \$250 an acre.

M. M. W.

White Church, Kan.

FROM NEBRASKA.—Our country is well supplied with running brooks, all made from springs, as we have no lakes, sloughs, marshes or any dead water. We find abundance of water by digging from twenty to forty feet, and the water is pure and cold. We have abundance of hay lands, and fine grazing on the richest of blue-joint grass. Stock is herded for the season for from 75 cents to \$1 a head. We have two distinct qualities of land. The larger part is of a dark, heavy loam soil underlaid with clay subsoil, which sells for from \$12 to \$20 an acre, according to location and improvements. The other is a dark, sandy, loam soil underlaid with clay subsoil. This is our sugar-beet and fine corn lands. Sugar-beets raised on these lands test the highest per cent of sugar in the world. These lands can be bought to-day for from \$9 to \$15 per acre. These dark, sandy loam soils raise from twenty to thirty tons of beets per acre, and bring the farmers \$5 per ton. We have a healthful climate. We are in the corn belt, and frost or hot winds never injure our corn.

R. H. D.

FROM FLORIDA.—The village of Lawtey is in what is known as the "flatwoods," a peculiar soil formation, which in its various localities embraces about 13,000,000 acres in Florida. It is piney woods interspersed with bay-heads (swamps), in which the pine gives place to cypress. This is low, flat land, which in the "rainy season" of midsummer is covered, acres in a place, with an inch or two of water. But the dense, stiff wire-grass will enable one even then to pass over it almost dry-shod. This low land is rather too moist and frosty for the best results in fruit culture, though it is excellent for strawberries. But its future destiny lies, I am convinced, in the direction of stock growing. When this aboriginal wire-grass runs out it is replaced by the flat-grass or Louisiana-grass (*Paspalum platycarpe*), which is almost evergreen, and which covers the soil with a thick, dense carpet. A Louisiana-grass sod, when perfectly established, can be pared off an inch thick and lifted up in sheets eighteen inches square. All kinds of stock are exceedingly fond of it, and I consider an acre of flatwoods well set in Louisiana-grass worth fully as much intrinsically as an acre of blue-grass in Kentucky. If not yielding quite as much pasture at any one time, it yields it ten months of the year, and such a winter as last, all the year round. Beef made on wire-grass is tolerably poor eating, especially in the winter when the grass becomes hard and dry; but made on this Louisiana-grass, it is excellent. Sweet potatoes are as easily grown here as Irish potatoes in Ohio. And with the addition to them of a little cotton-seed meal, the problem of making first-class beef, pork, mutton and milk is solved. We have here a little colony of refined northern people, and we desire additions to our numbers for the sake of society. We are six miles from any body of water. It is perfectly healthful here. Transportation is first-class. We have a good public school, and a church edifice that cost \$4,000.

S. P.

Lawtey, Bradford county, Fla.

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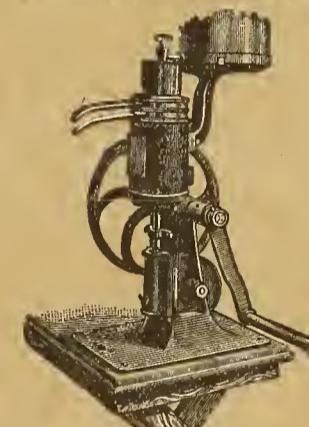
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Smiles.

There was a young maid from Sioux,
Who put on a tan-colored shioux,
Which made folks griu,
For it matched her skin,
And off in a rage she sioux.
—Atlanta Journal.

A POEM WITH A POINT.

Only a pin; yet it calmly lay
On the tufted floor, in the light of day;
And it shone serenely fair and bright,
Reflecting back the noonday light.

Only a boy; yet he saw that pin,
And his face assumed a fiendish grin;
He stooped for awhile, with a look intent,
Till he and the pin alike were bent.

Only a chair; but upon its seat
A well-bent pin found safe retreat;
Nor had the keenest eye discerned
That heavenward its point was turned.

Only a man; but he chanced to drop
Upon that chair, when fizz! bang! pop!
He leaped like a cork from out a bottle,
And opened wide his valve de throttle.

Only a yell; though an honest one,
It lacked the element of fun;
And man and boy and pin and chair
In wild confusion mingled there.

WONDERFUL DISCOVERIES.

THE professor, who had for a long time been pawing over the corn in the farmer's corn-bin for some purpose known only to himself, at last came up excitedly to the place where the farmer was milking.

"Mr. Grassey," said he, "I've discovered a remarkable thing—a very remarkable thing."

"I want 'o know!" said the farmer, the surge of milk in his full pail ceasing for an instant. "In the corn-bin, tew!"

"Yes, sir, a remarkable thing. There isn't an ear of corn in your bin that has an odd number of rows of kernels on it!"

"Sho!" answered the farmer. "You don't tell me?" The pour of milk started in again, louder than ever.

"It's a fact."

"Wal, nowt you mention it, I can tell you a remarkable fact. You may take the exact number of married people in every state in the Union and compare 'em, and there won't be an odd number in that lot of statistics."

"Ha!" said the professor contemptuously. "There's nothing very remarkable about that. Married people usually come in pairs, don't they?"

"Dew tell!" said the farmer. "An' so do rows of kernels on ears of corn. Guess you wa'n't fetched up on a farm, professor."—*Youth's Companion*.

NOBODY.

A Kentucky office-seeker in Washington who had an idea that he was a distinguished and prominent citizen when he first came, had hung around and been disappointed until he was in the last stages. Then he thought of home and how to get there, and away he went to Colonel —, passenger agent of the — railroad.

"I say, colonel," he said, persuasively. "I want to go home."

"Why don't you go?"
"Got no money. Can't you give me a pass?"

The colonel stiffened his spine.
"We give passes to nobody," he replied firmly.

The face of the despairing diappointee showed a faint smile of humility.

"Well, colonel," he pleaded, "give me one; I'm nobody."

And the colonel loaned him a special for a week.—*Detroit Free Press*.

SYNONYMS.

Steal a chicken, and you are a thief; steal \$1,000 from your employer, and you are an embezzler; steal \$5,000 from the government, and you are a defaulter; rob your competitor on the stock exchange of \$10,000, and you are a financier; rob him of \$100,000 to \$500,000, and you are a wizard or a Napoleon of finance; wreck a railroad and gather it in; and you are a "magistrate;" wreck a great railroad system, and you are a "railroad king;" conduct a "negotiation" by which a strong nation plunders a weak nation of thousands upon thousands of square miles of territory, and makes the weak nation pay millions of money indemnity for the wrong it has suffered, and you are a diplomat. Truly, "the times are out of joint."—*Religious Herald*.

BEFORE THE VENUS OF MILO.

Smithers (reading sign, "Hands off")—"The poor idiots! Do they think any one could look at that statue and not know the hands were off?"

FARMING THAT PAYS.

Get a farm accessible to the best markets, where the climate is temperate all the year round, where there are good schools and churches, and good neighbors, and where land, capable of producing the best sellers, can be purchased at low prices. The farms that pay are in Virginia. Send for catalogue and learn how others have prospered. Address U. L. Truitt, General Traveling Passenger Agent, Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, Cincinnati, Ohio.

OF GOVERNMENT.

One angel met another on the jasper street, taking earthly observations.
"What are you looking at?"
"Men."
"And what do you see?"
"I see wise men living under laws made by fools and knaves, and submitting of their own wills."

"Strange," said the other. "And how do they justify such a system?"

"They don't justify it. They say it's all wrong."

"And why do they submit?"

"That I cannot tell."

"And what do they call such a strange anomaly?"

"Politics."

THE HONEST DENTIST.

"Harry, dear, I found an honest dentist today," said Mrs. Cumso to her husband.

"You don't say! Tell me about this wonderful freak of nature."

"Well, he examined my teeth and said they didn't need anything done to them."

"What did he charge you for that?"

"Only five dollars, when he might have worked all day, and charged me ten or fifteen. Doesn't that show he was honest, dear?"

"No; it shows he was lazy."—*Life*.

KNEW THEIR WEAKNESS.

An exchange has a story of a wise son who knows not only his father, but his uncle.

"Johnny," said his teacher, "if your father can do a piece of work in seven days, and your Uncle George can do it in nine days, how long will it take both of them to do it?"

"They'd never get it done," said Johnny. "They'd sit down and tell fish stories."—*Orange County Farmer*.

DOWN IN ARKANSAS.

"Well, Jim, how's theague?"

"Didn't I tell you about that? Why, I went into old man Sharp's field one night about a week ago, and the old man got up and loaded his gun in the dark, 'n' cuss me if he didn't blow me full of two-grain quinine pills! I ain't had an ache nor a shake since."—*Life*.

THE PROPER IMPLEMENT.

"Do you believe that all flesh is grass, Mrs. Small?" asked Mr. Hunker of his landlady, who requested him to carve.

"Yes, sir; that is what the good book says."

"Then I'll trouble you to have the lawnmower brought in, instead of this carving-knife."

ACCORDING TO HIS LIGHTS.

"How do you like that colored valet you imported from Alabama?"

"He won't do."

"What's the matter?"

"I told him last night to get out what I needed for the ball, and he brought me my razor."

LITTLE BITS.

"Please give me a penny to buy something to eat with," said a beggar.

"To eat with?" said the person accosted.

"What's the matter with your mouth?"

"You must let the baby have one cow's milk to drink every day," said the doctor.

"Very well, if you say so, doctor," said the perplexed young mother, "but I really don't see how he is going to hold it all."

Sleepy citizen—"What do you want in my house?"

Burglar (presenting gun)—"I want money."

Sleepy citizen—"Good Lord! Give us your hand—so do I."—*Cleveland Plaindealer*.

Johnny—"It's just like a fussy old maid, anyway."

Mama—"What's wrong now, Johnny?"

Johnny—"Well, teacher told me not to speak out loud, and then kept me in for whispering."

"But why are you so very anxious to see a whale, Mrs. Trotter?" asked the captain, after the lady had inquired for the twentieth time if one was in sight.

"I want so much to see one blubber, captain. It must be very impressive to see such a large creature cry."

"What's the subscription price of your new paper?"

"Two dollars a year."

"Is it intended for any particular class of readers?"

"Yes; it's for those who have two dollars."—*Implement and Carriage World*.

He—"And so you are really attending a cooking-school, Miss Clara?"

She—"Yes, and it is such fun."

He—"I suppose you can make nice bread already?"

She—"No; I have nothing to do with making bread, but I can make lovely angel cake. I am only taking the classical course."

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Recent Publications.

THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF NATURAL LAW. By Henry Wood. The titles of a few of the twenty-four chapters will give some idea of its contents. Among them are, The Law of Co-operation, The Law of Competition, Combinations of Capital, Combinations of Labor, Profit Sharing, Socialism, Economic Legislation, Can Capital and Labor be Harmonized, The Distribution of Wealth, The Centralization of Business, Booms and Panics, Money and Coinage, Tariffs and Protection, Industrial Education, etc., etc. Lee & Shepard, Boston. \$1.25.

BRIGHT LIGHT is the cheerful name of Mr. S. W. Straub's new singing-book for Sunday schools and young people's meetings. Over one hundred hymn-writers and over fifty composers are represented, making the most refreshing variety. It is well bound, and the type is clear. It contains 208 pages. The price is 35 cents. The publishers, S. W. Straub & Co., 245 State street, Chicago, Ill., offer to mail one copy of Bright Light for examination upon receipt of 20 cents.

THE WORLD'S PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS, edited by Rev. John Henry Barrows, D. D., is the only authentic and at all adequate history of this wonderful parliament, one of the most significant events of the century. Other abridged publications are in the market, but the one in hand is the only authorized work. It comprises two volumes of some 800 pages each, excellently printed and well bound. It is a complete history of the parliament, and gives all the proceedings and addresses of the convention. In addition the work is greatly enhanced by fine portraits of many of the speakers, cuts of buildings and temples in foreign lands, etc. Published by the Parliament Publishing Co., 90 and 92 Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill. The Historical Publishing Co., Dayton, Ohio, general agents for central states.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

Dr. Sykes' Sure Cure for Catarrh. Dr. Sykes, 334 Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill.

Roses, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, Greenhouse and Bedding Plants. A. B. Davis & Son, Purcellville, Va.

Noxall Incubator. George W. Murphy & Co., Quincy, Ill.

Home-grown Seeds. James J. H. Gregory, Marblehead, Mass.

West Pocket Reference Book, showing reliable seeds for sale by Tillinghast Bros., La Plume, Pa.

Tuberous Begonias, Hardy Perennials, Shrubs, etc. Oasis Nursery Co., Westbury Station, Long Island, N. Y.

Farm and Garden Supplies. Griffith, Turner & Co., Baltimore, Md.

Wholesale Trade List of the Lake Shore Nurseries. L. W. Carr & Co., Erie, Pa.

Wholesale Price-list of Pleasant Valley Nurseries. J. S. Collins' Son, Morestown, Burlington Co., N. J.

Gardening Illustrated. Published by Vaughan's Seed Store, 88 State street, Chicago, Ill.

Price-list of the Fruit Land Nursery. Thos. J. Ward, St. Mary's, Vigo Co., Ind.

Choice Western New York Seed Potatoes and Grains. O. H. White & Son, Miller Corners, Ontario Co., N. Y.

Catalogue of "The Gold Spike" fruit farm and poultry-yards. E. H. Upson, Wilmot, Ind.

General catalogue of fruit and ornamental trees, roses, etc. Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y.

Circular of Champiou harvesting machinery. Warder, Bushnell & Glessner, Chicago, Ill., and Springfield, Ohio.

Hardy ferns and flowers, over sixty kinds of lilies, 600 plants and orchids, etc. Edward Gillett, Southwick, Mass.

Fruit and ornamental trees, small fruits, roses, etc. Fred E. Young, 6 Willard Park, Rochester, N. Y.

Circular of Conrath raspberry. Conrath Bros., Ann Arbor, Mich.

"Why Bonanza Farming Pays," describing the visit of the world's fair foreign commissioners to the Northwest. Will be sent free. William Deering & Co., Chicago, Ill.

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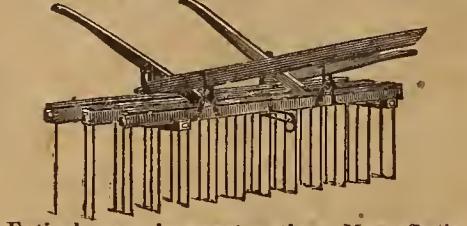
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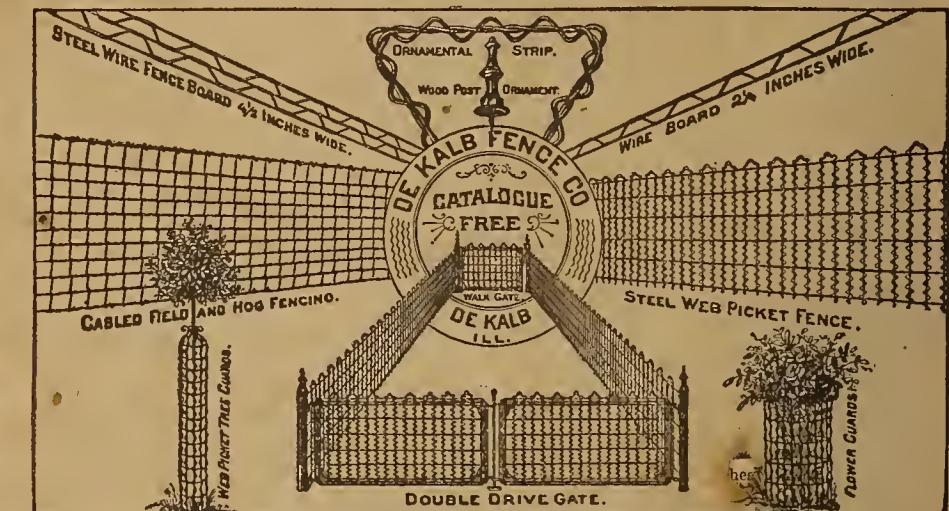
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